

Palestinians stage parade in Iraq

MUSAYYAB, Iraq (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat took the salute Wednesday at a march past of Palestinian fighters here. An estimated 1,000 fighters, many of whom were withdrawn from Lebanon, shouted anti-Israeli slogans as they staged the ceremony at a stadium here 50 kilometres south of Baghdad. They drove mobile rocket launchers, tanks and armoured personnel carriers in the parade which Mr. Arafat said were "a gift from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi army." The PLO chairman, in an emotional speech, compared Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to Israeli Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon under whose orders, as defence minister, the Israeli army were able to expel PLO men from South Lebanon in 1982. Syrian backed Palestinian dissidents forced Mr. Arafat's supporters from the rest of Lebanon in 1983. Mr. Assad, said Mr. Arafat, was the "Sharon of the Arabs."

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King chairs cabinet session

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein presided over a cabinet session Wednesday during which he reviewed and discussed internal and foreign affairs. During the session, the King also heard a briefing on efforts exerted by the government in the various sectors, mainly in the fields of energy, mineral resources, education, agriculture, defence and information. The King gave the cabinet his directions on the issues discussed. He had earlier met with Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat. The cabinet session was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem and Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh.

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King visits Qawasmeh family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday visited the family of the assassinated Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee member Fahd Qawasmeh on the occasion of the 40th day of the PLO official's death. The King was accompanied by Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem and Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh. They were received upon arrival by the martyr's family and his relatives and a number of citizens.

Obeidat bids farewell to Soviet envoy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat received in his office Wednesday the outgoing Soviet ambassador to Jordan, Rafik Nishanov, to bid him farewell at the end of his tour of duty. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said, Mr. Nishanov, who served as Soviet ambassador in Amman since 1978, is returning to his home republic of Uzbekistan in the Soviet Union and is expected to be named to a senior ministerial post, according to informed sources.

W. German court rejects ban on shipment to Iraq

KASSEL, West Germany (R) — A West German court Wednesday overturned a government, export ban on pesticide plant equipment produced for Iraq after saying that it could not be used to make poison gas. The Hesse state court in Kassel said its main objection to the order was a procedural one — only two ministers signed it in the absence of their cabinet colleagues during parliament's summer recess. It also said the plant, produced by the Frankfurt-based Pilot plant engineering and equipment, was not suitable for producing poison gas for military purposes.

Nothing 'new' in Cuban-Soviet talks

MOSCOW (AP) — Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmeria said Wednesday that his Kremlin talks here produced no departures from previous Soviet-Cuban stands, and that a new agreement with the United States is viewed positively in Havana. Mr. Malmeria also said Cuban leader Fidel Castro would consider meeting Pope John Paul II. Mr. Malmeria is the highest-ranking Cuban official to visit Moscow since last February when Mr. Castro came for the funeral of Yuri Andropov.

Kyprianou rules out early elections

ATHENS (R) — Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou, under heavy fire from domestic critics over the failure of U.N. talks about reuniting the island, Wednesday ruled out early elections over the issue. Mr. Kyprianou defended his stance at last month's talks with Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash in New York and ruled out an early poll. "We are not near to elections. It's a presidential system in Cyprus," he told a press luncheon here.

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PLO decides to wait on Jordan's proposal for a joint initiative

By Lamis K. Andoni in Tunis

THE Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee has decided not to commit itself to any specific joint Jordanian-Palestinian political initiative, but to continue consultations and talks with Jordan to crystallise a common perspective on means to solve the Palestinian question, according to PLO officials here.

The decision was taken at a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee Tuesday night following a series of inter-Palestinian meetings and top-level Jordanian-Palestinian consultations over the last two weeks.

The Palestinian decision was expected to be conveyed to the Jordanian government by Fateh Central Committee member Khalid Al Hassan who was scheduled to arrive in Amman Wednesday to discuss the Palestinian decision with the Jordanian officials.

Over the last two weeks, Mr. Hassan, a major troublemaker for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has been shuttling between Amman and Tunis in an attempt to formulate a joint Jordanian-Palestinian position on the basis of a peace initiative to solve the Palestinian question.

During his opening speech to the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman last November, His Majesty King Hussein called on the PLO to formulate a joint political initiative based on U.N. Res-

olution 242 and exert efforts to convene an international peace conference with the participation of the PLO and all other parties involved and the United States and the Soviet Union.

The PNC reiterated the PLO's rejection of Resolution 242, endorsed the idea of an international conference and referred the proposals of the King to the PLO Executive Committee for study.

But on Tuesday, amid differences on the basis of such a joint political initiative, the PLO Executive Committee decided not to commit itself to any political initiative, and in the meanwhile opted to wait for the results of Saudi King Fahd's visit to the U.S. and the development of the American position on the Palestinian question, according to the PLO officials in Tunis.

The three main differences between Jordan and the PLO, as summed up by a senior PLO Executive Committee member here, are:

— The position on Resolution 242: While Jordan believes that

Israel to increase military presence in occupied W. Bank

RAMALLAH, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — The Israeli government Wednesday decided to increase the Israeli military presence in the occupied West Bank to counter increasing Palestinian attacks against Israelis as an extremist Jewish leader stormed into the Dheisheh Palestinian refugee camp near Bethlehem.

A 10-member Israeli inner cabinet decided during a special session "to increase our presence in Judea and Samaria, (the Israeli name for the occupied West Bank) and of course, continue relentless activities to cope with sporadic events of terror," Israeli Defence Minister Mr. Yitzhak Rabin said during a visit to this Palestinian city where an Israeli soldier was shot to death Monday.

Monday's shooting was the second death of an Israeli in the West Bank in less than five days. The seriousness of assaults in the area has escalated during the last two weeks. The first Israeli to be killed in two years died last Thursday of injuries suffered in a firebombing.

Rabin contended that there appeared to be a "united front between Jordan and the PLO" (Palestine Liberation Organisation) regarding attacks on Israel.

"The fact is that there is no disagreement between Jordan and the PLO and they present themselves as one," he said. "It looks to the people that sit here that there is a united front between Jordan and the PLO both politically and in terms of terrorism vis-a-vis Israel."

He claimed that "aside from that, operational orders are more out of Amman and out of Tunis."

Israel Radio reported an Israeli bus was stoned in Ramallah on Wednesday. It said a windshield was smashed and a soldier accompanying the bus was slightly injured. It gave no further details.

For the second time this week, Rabbi Moshe Levinger stormed into the Dheisheh refugee camp after claiming Palestinian residents threw stones at him, the

radio reported. A side fire broke out in the air but no injuries were reported, the broadcast added.

Rabin Levinger has lived in a van parked across the road from the camp for more than three months to protest stone-throwing incidents.

Speaking to the Israeli parliament Tuesday, Mr. Rabin contended that "Amman has become the centre of planning and of giving orders for the carrying out of attacks against Israel."

In Ramallah, 16 kilometres north of Jerusalem, shops were still shuttered Wednesday along the street where the Israeli soldier was killed by a unidentified man using a small calibre pistol.

Mr. Rabin said he did not rule out using harsh punishments such as deportation to end Palestinian attacks against Israelis.

Jewish settlers have called on the Israeli government to deport Palestinian stone-throwers and blow up their homes as a deterrent against attacks.

longer valid."

In Warsaw, Jacek Kuron, a former Solidarity adviser, condemned the decision to send Mr. Blumstajn back to France, saying, "I think the authorities of this country have taken another step toward lawlessness."

Mr. Blumstajn, a former member of the KOR workers' rights group, had decided voluntarily to return to Poland without assurances of his fate there.

A passenger on the flight to Warsaw said Mr. Blumstajn was picked up by Polish police as he stepped off the Air France flight from Paris.

He was prevented from greeting more than 75 people waiting in the terminal of Okęcie airport.

ISLAMABAD (R) — India has sent about 100,000 troops close to its border with Pakistan without explaining to Islamabad the reasons for the sudden move, a senior Foreign Ministry official said here Wednesday.

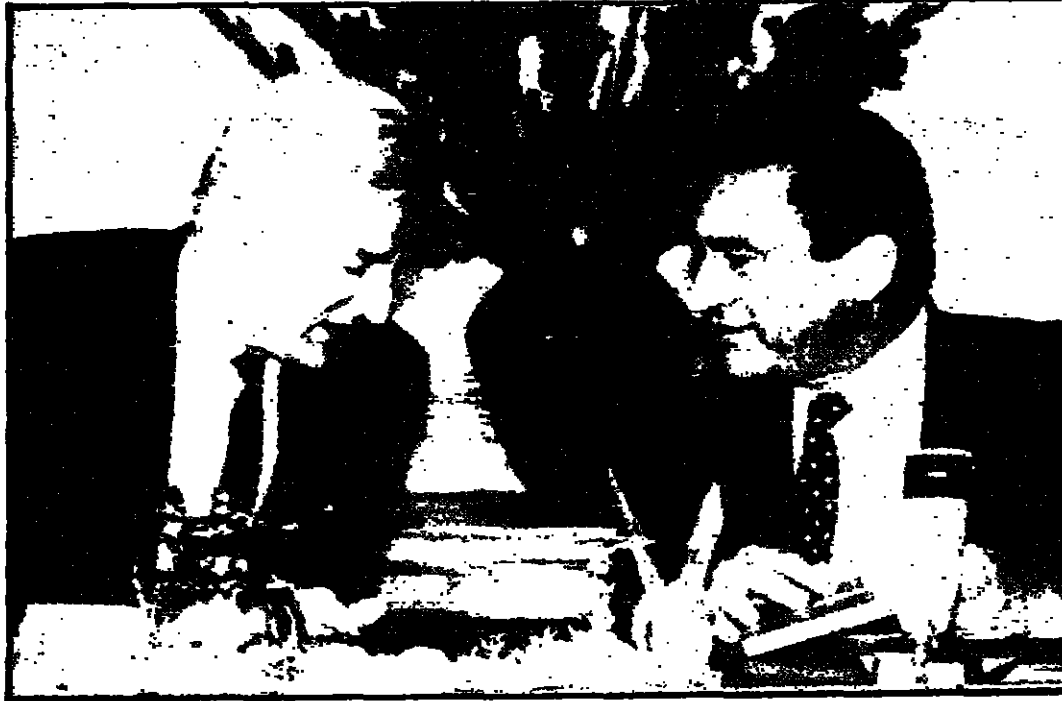
The official, who asked not to be identified, called the deployment a "menacing concentration of Indian forces within striking distance of Pakistan."

atgarh, only 120 kilometres from the border.

New Delhi informed Islamabad last May before it moved almost five divisions into Punjab state bordering Pakistan to control Sikh separatists and storm the Sikh's Golden Temple at Amritsar, he said.

"This intensifies the mystery as to why they have not done so this time," he said. "The forward movement of forces from the rear to combat zones is bound to cause anxiety on the other side."

The official said Pakistan, which has fought three wars with India since splitting at independence in



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (right) and West German President Richard von Weizsäcker held talks in Cairo Wednesday (AP wirephoto)

Occupation troops storm S. Lebanon villages

100 Israelis killed in bomb attack, Berri says

MAARAKEH, Lebanon (Agencies) — Shooting and street protests broke out Wednesday as Israeli troops swept into Palestinian and Shi'ite Muslim areas near the South Lebanese city of Tyre in a big anti-resistance operation.

Reacting to a rash of attacks Tuesday, including a reported suicide car bomb blast, hundreds of Israelis stormed into the Bourj Al Shemali refugee camp and Shi'ite neighbourhoods near Tyre, as well as nearby Shi'ite towns.

Between 200 and 300 men stormed into the town of Maarakeh, firing in the air as inhabitants chanted slogans and blocked roads with burning tyres and toppled utility poles, residents said.

Security sources said heavy automatic fire that broke out as the Israelis entered the Bourj Al Shemali camp area appeared to come from a Shi'ite district close to the scene of a big explosion Tuesday at the camp entrance.

In Beirut, Shi'ite militia leader Nabih Berri said the explosion was a suicide car bomb that killed or wounded 100 Israelis. Israel said Tuesday 12 soldiers were injured by two roadside bombs near the camp.

Mr. Berri told hundreds of cheering Shi'ite militiamen at a rally he had prior knowledge that a sui-

cide car bomb attack would take place Tuesday near Bourj Al Shemali. Seven vehicles were destroyed in the blast, he said.

"A group set off an explosion in Bourj Al Shemali against a withdrawing Israeli convoy and then Israeli troops sealed off the area," Mr. Berri said. "At that point a suicide car attacked and 100 Israelis were killed and wounded."

It was impossible to enter the area to check Wednesday, as it was surrounded by Israeli troops.

Security sources in the south said they suspected Israeli casualties in Tuesday's blast were more than the 10 wounded announced by a military spokesman in Tel Aviv.

They said a big explosion and fire had wrecked an Israeli stronghold 25 metres from the camp's main entrance. The blast was the third near the camp Tuesday, the sources added.

Only two were reported by the military spokesman in Tel Aviv. The security sources said two Israeli armoured personnel carriers and a truck were destroyed in the explosion.

The Israelis opened fire after the blast, injuring 30 people, of whom nine were taken to hospital, the sources said. They also stormed a nearby Shi'ite vocational

school and were still interrogating dozens of students.

People from Deir Qanoun village said they had stopped Israeli troops from entering by burning tyres in the roads and blocking them with electricity poles.

"We will not permit the treacherous Israelis to enter except over our bodies," a Shi'ite woman said. "This is the land of our ancestors and we will not let it be desecrated from now on."

Security sources said a bomb aimed at an Israeli patrol exploded east of Tyre at 7.00 a.m. (0500 GMT), causing a fire that wrecked a power station and cut the city's power supply. There was no report on casualties.

North of Tyre the Israelis set up a new roadblock at Sakakiyeh on the main coastal highway, protected by sand barriers four metres high.

Security sources said a bomb exploded near an Israeli patrol in the heights above the road, and a pro-Israeli militia position near the Shi'ite town of Nabatiyeh to the east was attacked with automatic fire and grenades.

Ambulances were seen heading for the scene near Nabatiyeh but there was no immediate word on casualties.

PLO warns of massacre threats in South Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation warned Wednesday that Palestinian refugees in Lebanon were under new threats of massacres and said it held the international community responsible for their safety, while the Lebanese government accused Israel of fomenting sectarian violence in occupied South Lebanon.

The PLO news agency Wafa said the PLO Executive Committee under Chairman Yasser Arafat discussed in Tunis Tuesday night "the serious threats to Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and southern Lebanon by the Zionist enemy, its agents and other parties."

"The Executive Committee warns the international community and its Arab brothers and holds them responsible," it added. The Lebanese Foreign Ministry said Wednesday Lebanon holds Israel responsible for any sectarian warfare that might erupt

upon the withdrawal of Israel's occupation forces from South Lebanon.

A statement said the ambassadors of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China — have been called to the Foreign Ministry for a briefing on Lebanon's position.

"The Security Council permanent members as well as all other member-states of the United Nations are called upon to thwart Israel's premeditated campaign to kindle sectarian violence in areas it intends to evacuate in the south," a Foreign Ministry official said.

The official, who spoke on condition he would not be named, charged that "the Israelis have been trying to promote distrust among Sunni, Shi'ite Muslim and Christian communities and offer arms to each to defend itself after the withdrawal."

Soviet, Israeli delegates clash in U.N. debate

GENEVA, Switzerland (AP) — A U.N. debate on human rights violations in occupied Arab territories on Wednesday erupted into a bitter exchange after the new Soviet chief delegate likened Israeli practices to Nazism.

Israeli policy in Lebanon shows "striking similarity to the methods used by the Hitlerites" in World War II, Vsevolod Sofinsky said during a session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. "Israeli foreign policy could be described as a form of state terrorism."

Ephraim Haran, the Israeli delegate, in a response observers described as emotional, called the Soviet's remarks "the height of provocation" and said "words failed" him for an appropriate response.

Mr. Haran urged Mr. Sofinsky "not to compare suffering of millions" with events in Israeli-occupied areas.

Mubarak: Jordan, PLO talks making progress

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said Wednesday he believed talks between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a strategy for Middle East peace negotiations had achieved progress.

Speaking to reporters after a second round of talks with visiting West German President Richard von Weizsäcker, Mr. Mubarak said: "I believe there has been a tangible progress between the organisation (PLO) and Jordan."

"I hope they achieve full coordination so that the United States can help in the peace negotiations with Israel to reach a comprehensive solution."

Any attempt to give momentum to the peace process in the absence of PLO-Jordan coordination would be very difficult, he said, adding Egypt was in permanent contact with both of them.

Egypt, the only Arab state to have diplomatic relations with Israel, has been urging Jordan and the PLO to agree on a joint strategy for peace negotiations.

The issue has been the subject of lengthy consultations between President Mubarak and King Hussein, who restored Jordanian-Egyptian diplomatic ties last September.

Mr. Mubarak said the Middle East problem was expected to be a major topic in talks next week in Washington between King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and President Ronald Reagan. The main object of his own visit to Washington next month would be to promote peace efforts, he said.

Dr. von Weizsäcker praised Egypt's policy towards the issue as practical and helpful and said any Middle East peace effort by the European Community (EC) could supplement the U.S. role.

Dr. von Weizsäcker was asked whether he thought the burden of peace efforts fell on the United States only and not Europe.

"I cannot say that," he replied. "I can say that EC countries, including West Germany, play an important role. These countries can make their voice heard and their influence felt in the United States."

Mr. Mubarak commented that the key to movement was "Arab agreement and coordination among themselves, otherwise nobody else can help us if we (Arabs) unify our position, Europe with its strong voice can support a just, comprehensive solution and the United States can throw its weight to help."

Dr. von Weizsäcker also called for an end to violence in the Middle East and said his country was ready to help all parties involved in the peace process.

"All the sides to the conflict must relinquish the use of violence and threats, because that is the only way out of the vicious circle of violence and counter-violence in the Middle East," he said at a banquet in his honour given by President Mubarak Tuesday night.

Bonn would support the peace process through cooperation with its Western European allies and coordination with the United States, he added.

Mr. Mubarak, in his banquet speech, called for international cooperation to end the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon.

Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali, who attended Wednesday's talks, told reporters that Dr. von Weizsäcker "officially informed President Mubarak of West Germany's readiness to guarantee the financing of the German firm bidding for (Egypt's) nuclear power reactor." He gave no details.

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Grenade blast kills 1, injures 2 in Tehran

TEHRAN (Agencies). — A hand grenade hurled from a passing motorcycle exploded in an official building in northern Tehran Wednesday, killing one person and injuring two others, the National News Agency IRNA reported.

It said "two U.S. mercenary agents" who threw the grenade, and another which failed to explode, were shot by a policeman while trying to escape. One was killed and the other wounded and arrested along with a third man at the scene.

IRNA said the grenade damaged the ground floor of the four-story Accounting Department of the Mostazafin Foundation and nearby shops. The foundation administrators property seized from the late Shah and others.

The attack came as Iran was celebrating the sixth anniversary of the return from exile of revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and the Shah's fall 10 days later.

Earlier IRNA said a bomb had exploded outside the building. It said Mohammad Tahmasbi, 24, maintenance chief at the Accounting Department, was killed in the grenade attack and two security men were injured.

On Feb. 2, IRNA said a 62-year-old garbage collector was killed when a bomb exploded in a rubbish bag behind his truck in north east Tehran. His son was badly injured.

Late last month, two bomb blasts within 12 hours in Tehran left six people dead and 50 injured, causing extensive damage to cars and buildings.

One bomb was concealed in a taxi outside a small hotel in a busy area of the city. The other exploded in an alley.

Drive against Khomeini

Meanwhile the Iranian Mujahadeen resistance movement, driven underground by a brutal purge of its members, says it plans to resurface this month in Iran with a new offensive.

"We're not saying this will overthrow (Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeini, but it is a warm-up," Ali Safavi, a leading spokesman for the group's supporters in the United States, declared in a recent interview with the Associated

Press.

The week-long drive, scheduled to begin Wednesday, is the latest in a series of efforts reported by the Mujahadeen Al Khala, or "Islamic warriors of the people," in what Mr. Safavi describes as "a life-and-death struggle against Khomeini."

Assaults on government officials and facilities are planned inside Iran, Safavi said, calling it the group's most extensive effort since the 1979 revolution. The group also plans demonstrations in cities including London, Paris, Bonn, Stockholm, New Delhi, Washington, Los Angeles and Vienna.

Asked why advance notice was being given, Mr. Safavi said it would give Iranians an opportunity to respond. He said the group planned to spread the word via radio broadcasts from Iraqi Kurdistan and leaflet distribution.

"We plan to break windows in every government building," said Mr. Safavi, allowing a brief smile to soften the intense glare behind a pair of tortoise-shell glasses. "It would be a good time to buy stock in companies that make glass."

The target week coincides with the third anniversary of the Feb. 8, 1982 slaying by government soldiers of Mousa Khiaabani, then the Mujahadeen's top commander inside Iran.

The movement's central figure, Massoud Rajavi, had by then fled to Paris, where he directs Mujahadeen activities today.

As with many clandestine, self-described populist movements, it is difficult to determine the extent of support for the Mujahadeen, especially in Iran, where its followers have been brutally suppressed.

Although the young Islamic guerrillas were instrumental in toppling the late Shah of Iran, they were swiftly labelled enemies of Khomeini's autocratic theocracy. Thousands of Mujahadeen members were killed and imprisoned in the resultant purge. Markings on their graves were torn down.

"They were eaten up by the revolution they tried to foment," said Richard Bulliet, head of Columbia University's Middle East Institute. Added a U.S. State Department official, speaking on condition of anonymity, "there's no real effective opposition to Khomeini from what we've been able to see."

But other observers interviewed said while it's unlikely the Mujahadeen could sweep Khomeini from power now, the group would enjoy the most support should the current government begin to crumble from pressures such as the war with Iraq and flagging economy.

"If the regime began to break down and there was a fluid situation, I would think the Mujahadeen would be the main opposition. They have an organization capable of concerted action more than the royalists, the Communists or the Constitutionalists," said Professor Ervand Abrahamian of Oxford University.

The Mujahadeen appear to have abandoned some of their leftist heritage. Mr. Bulliet described them as populists.

Although they espouse private property and investment, Prof. Abrahamian said their plans for land reform and redistribution of wealth are "Socialistic" — an ideology he said boosts their popularity.

"Of all the opposition groups they have the most support in terms of numbers. They have a lot of appeal among the younger people, even now," Prof. Abrahamian said.

Mr. Bulliet said the Mujahadeen have "the most extensive organization" of the various resistance groups. Others include Monarchist supporters of the Shah's son, Reza Pahlavi, and followers of ex-Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiari.

"The Mujahadeen have not been crushed," insisted Mr. Safavi, who wears a dark three-piece suit and carries a briefcase crammed with carefully printed literature. "We enjoy enormous popularity within Iran. Obviously we have suffered losses. But we are beyond the point where executions can seriously undermine the strength of the Mujahadeen inside Iran."



OIC chief encouraged by Gulf peace outlook

DHAKA (R) — The secretary-general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) has said he is encouraged by the prospects for an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

"The Gulf war and the Middle East and Afghan situation are the worst challenges before us and they need urgent attention," Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada told the official Bangladesh News Agency BSS.

Mr. Pirzada said the OIC had taken fresh initiatives this year towards ending the war, now more than four years old.

"We are encouraged by the reasonable attitude being shown by the two warring countries recently," he said.

The OIC chief visited Dhaka for the annual meeting of the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank and left Tuesday for Ankara.

Mr. Pirzada said another major task for the OIC was to unite the Muslim World in the cause of forcing Israel to vacate all occupied Arab territory, including Jerusalem.

"Israel must withdraw and the Palestinians must get back their homeland. We will pursue this from all directions," he said.

Mauritania reiterates support of Arab causes

AMMAN (Petra) — Mauritania continues to support the Arab causes, "especially the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland," a senior Mauritanian official has said.

Mauritanian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammed Abdul Qader Ouldberri was speaking to reporters here Tuesday after delivering a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Mauritanian President Col. Muawiah Sid Ahmad Ouldtaia.

The message, he said, explained the latest internal changes in his country which included the reformation of the governing military council.

He said the King showed "complete understanding of those changes."

The envoy said his visit is part of a campaign aimed at conveying to Arab leaders the exact nature of the changes in Mauritania.

Mr. Ouldberri praised Jordan's steadfastness and King Hussein's stand and said that relations between the two brotherly countries is growing steadily and will soon yield a cultural cooperation agreement.

He added his country hopes that economic relation between the two countries will expand and include the export of Mauritanian fish and iron to Jordan.

Mauritania has two million people affected by the drought that hit Central African countries.



Mohammed Abdul Qader Ouldberri

Mr. Ouldberri said.

He said that his country was able to save the victims of the drought and to eliminate the danger of hunger with the help of Arab countries.

Col. Ouldtaia, who was the Mauritanian defence minister prior to the coup which brought him to power a few months ago, has ordered the release of all detainees by declaring an amnesty. Mr. Ouldberri said.

Speaking in the same press meeting were the Mauritanian non-resident Ambassador Mohammed Mahmoud Ould Widi and the honorary councillor general in Jordan Ali Halabi, who both talked on bilateral relations between the two countries and contacts underway for the increase in the volume of trade between them.

Jordan to revitalise economic situation

AMMAN (J.T.) — In a bid by the government to revitalise the economic situation in the Kingdom, Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat met in his office Tuesday with the president and the administrators of the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

During the meeting which discussed the economic situation prevailing in the Kingdom in general and the commercial state of the art in particular, the Chamber of Commerce officials briefed Mr. Obeidat on the effects of the government's current policy pursued to organise and support economic and commercial transactions.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said in a dispatch Tuesday that the Chamber's officials which it did not mention by name, "had some comments" on the government's economic policies mainly on import of foodstuffs and pricing.

The officials were reported to have called on the government to "reduce certain routine procedures" regarding the establishment of new projects, imports and customs procedures.

Officials of the chamber contacted by the Jordan Times declined to elaborate on their "comments" to the prime minister but said "the ball is in the government's court now," and that they have "made their points clear."

The officials stressed during the meeting, the importance of encouraging and supporting the transport sector and revitalising its effectiveness in order to be able to better serve commercial activities.

The Prime Minister said the government was "open minded" regarding all opinions, objective and constructive ideas based on practical and scientific research that are calling for "reconsidering existing economic practices."

The prime minister called on the chamber officials not to hesitate in submitting written suggestions based on studies, and expressed his readiness to study these suggestions carefully in order to adopt what would be feasible.

The meeting was attended by Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Anani and Mr. Obeidat's economic affairs advisor.

Former aide calls U.S. Lebanon policy a 'disaster'

WASHINGTON (R) — Former National Security Adviser Richard Allen has said that President Ronald Reagan's policies in Lebanon led to a foreign policy "disaster," resulting from a failure to define why the United States kept its forces in that war-torn country.

"I suppose if the administration had it to do over again, the dispatch of Marines to Lebanon would have been handled differently," Mr. Allen told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"The rationale for the use of the Marines shifted during their presence in Lebanon and we did not

mainly export activities, Petra said.

The agency added that the officials also underlined the importance of encouraging food industries and to "open ways" for these industries to prosper.

In his response to the chamber's comments carried by Petra, Mr. Obeidat explained the government's policy towards the private sector and its role in managing the economy.

The Prime Minister said the government was pursuing the policy of "free economic enterprise" which is consistent with the economic phases the Kingdom passes through.

Petra said Mr. Obeidat pointed out to the necessity of "uniting efforts" to work towards facing the current "financial circumstances" and to provide a proper atmosphere that guarantees the continuity of growth in Jordan.

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TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:00 Koran
17:10 Cartoons
17:20 Children's Program
17:30 Walt Disney
18:05 Local Programme on Agriculture
19:25 Programme Review
19:35 Week's Event
20:00 News in Arabic
20:40 Arabic Series
21:15 Tomorrow's Programmes
21:50 Arabic Play
22:00 News in Arabic
22:10 Play Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 Documentary
19:00 Theatre de Boulevard
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Drawing Workshop
20:30 Three's Company
21:10 Travelling Man
22:00 News in English
22:15 Movie of the Week: The Captain

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 95.60 KHz. SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show
11:00 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:15 Talking Points
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 25 Years of Rock
18:00 Woody Woodpecker
18:05 Special Feature
18:30 From the Holy Koran
19:00 News
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 Evening Show
21:05 Evening Show
21:55 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show
23:00 Evening Show
23:05 Evening Show
23:57 News Headlines
24:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsday 06:30 Classical Record Review 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours: News Summary 07:10 Football Choice 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsday 08:30 Nature Notebook 08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World News 09:05 24 Hours: News Summary 09:10 Short Takes 09:45 Newsday UK 10:00 World News 10:05 Reflections 10:10 Country Music Profile 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:05 British News Review 11:10 World News 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Monitor 12:00 News Summary: From The Promenade 12:05 World News 12:09 News about Britain 12:15 New Ideas 12:25 The Week in Wales 12:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsday 14:15 Top Twenty 14:45 World News 14:50 World News 15:00 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Network UK 15:45 Sackbuts And Sinfonias 16:00 News Summary: Outlook 16:45 On The Floor 17:00 Radio Newsday 17:15 The Pleasure of Your 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Assignment 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 Meridian 20:00 News Summary 20:30 Sports Round-up 20:50 Newsday 21:00 Discovery 21:00 News Summary: Outlook 21:45 Stock Market Report 21:45 Report on Religion 22:00 World News 22:30 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 Business Matters 23:00 News Summary 23:05 In the Mezzanine 23:15 A Jolly Good Show 24:00 World News 06:00 The World Today 06:25 The Week in Wales 06:30 Sports Round-up 06:40 Reflections 06:45 Sports Round-up 07:00 World News, Commentary 07:15 Merchant Navy Programme 07:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1230, SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 & 15210 KHz

06:00 VOA Morning News, Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Digest, Sports News at 30 minute past the hour. 07:00 News 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News and Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English and Features 21:00 Newsline America 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 VOA World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Design and Industry exhibition at Yarmouk University Gymnasium 9:00-12:00 and 14:00 to 17:00 from 6th to 16th February. Tel. 37169.

* An exhibition of books and publications on the teaching of English, organised by the British Council, at the University of Jordan Language Centre.

FILM

* Johnny Cash Film at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 44371
American Cultural Library 41520
British Council 36147-3
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 36111
Hayat Centre 665195
Husseini Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. 41793
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Palace Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also a collection from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:15 Bucharest (RO)
09:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 Jeddah (RJ)
09:45 Cairo (RJ)
10:00 Dhahran (RJ)
10:00 Beirut (RJ)
10:25 Dhahran, Riyadh (SA)
11:30 Islamabad, Ankara (RJ)
12:05 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)

DEPARTURES

05:45 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00 Beirut (RJ)
08:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)
08:45 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:15 Athens, Cairo (RJ)
11:30 Athens, Athens (RJ)
12:00 Paris, London (RJ)
12:15 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:20 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:30 Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)
13:00 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
13:30 Larnaca, Tripoli (CY)
13:50 Larnaca (CY)
14:00 Kuwait (KU)
14:10 Baghdad (IA)
14:15 Kuwait (RJ)
14:30 Doha, Muscat (RJ)
14:35 Jeddah (RJ)
14:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
14:45 Beirut (RJ)

PRAYER TIMES

06:00 (Sunrise) Fajr
06:26 Dhuhr
11:57 Asr
14:52 Maghrib
18:40 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

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PRAYER TIMES

06:00 (Sunrise) Fajr
06:26 Dhuhr
11:57 Asr
14:52 Maghrib
18:40 'Isha

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— This Argo
— Arabi Gulf
— Poly Darius
— Diamond Moon
— Cent

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Foggy conditions will prevail in hilly and desert areas in the early morning. It will be partly cloudy, with westerly moderate winds and slight increase in temperature is expected. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

LOW/HIGH TEMPERATURE IN DEG. C

Amman 6/18
Aqaba 6/18
Dahab 10/12
Jordan Valley 4/17

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 7, Aqaba 16. Humidity readings: Amman 96 per cent, Aqaba 51 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Belgian franc	63.6/64
Dutch guilder	112.4/113.1
Egyptian pound	306.6/310.6
French franc	41.7/41.9
Irish pound	342.6/346.6
Italian lire (for 100)	20.7/20.9
Japanese yen (for 100)	157.9/158.9
Kuwaiti dinar	1355/1360
Lebanese lira	31.1/32
Omani rial	117.6/118.6
Qatari riyal	112.2/112.6
Saudi riyal	114.7/115.1
Swiss franc	149.8/150.7
Swedish crown	44.7/45
Syrian lire	32.3/33.3
UAE dirham	111.4/111.8
U.K. sterling pound	456.2/459
U.S. dollar	410.5/412.5
W. German mark	127.3/128

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 775111
Fire, fire, police 199
Blood bank 775121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 2200-3
Police rescue 192, 2111, 3777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56300-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 77125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 813813-32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman 42431
Al-Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman 42431
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Maltes, J. Amman 36140
Pohle, J. Amman 664171-4
Shamsi Hospital 845454
University Hospital 845454
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Musharraf Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic, Amman 664392
Al-Ahli, Amman 664164
Italian, Al-Muhajirah 777101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111
Army, Amman 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Farouq Hussein Noor 38189

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 666412
Police complaints 661176
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Cable or telegram 11
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower prices in Jds per kg

Apple (double red)	280/220
Apple (golden)	280/220
Apple (pink)	280/220

Colleges to use Hussein's speech as curricula basis

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein's inaugural speech at Muta University will be used as a basis for the development of community colleges' curricula, according to Minister of Education Hikmat Al Saket.

The minister Wednesday distributed the script of the speech to heads of educational committees entrusted by the ministry's educational council for the development of higher education in the country.

In his speech the King called for intensified efforts to develop higher education in Jordan in quantity as well as quality and said that the educational system should be suited to meet the needs of development and to serve the country's modernisation requirements.

On education in general and higher education in particular, the King's speech pointed out two facts which prompt people to pursue their education. The first pertains to the requirement of the transitional period, which links the past to the future, and the second is relevant to Jordan itself whose natural resources are very limited.

"The changes and progress entailed by economical, social and technological changes in this world cannot enable Jordan to search for knowledge for the sake of knowledge per se, in isolation of the country's development needs and requirement of the age. Neither can it enable those wishing to obtain higher academic degree for achieving an imaginary social status through an insistence on specialising in a certain area where there are no opportunities of work," King Hussein said.

Three committees were formed to prepare new curricula for a number of specialisations and vocational courses at colleges of engineering, industry, agriculture, business and office practices.

Earlier in the day Dr. Badran and the accompanying delegation were received by the Bahraini Minister of Finance and National Economy Ibrahim Abdul Karim.

The agreement was signed by Jordanian Ministry of Trade and

Industry Under-Secretary Ibrahim Badran and Bahraini Ministry of Finance and National Economy Under-Secretary Issa Borashed.

MANAMA (Petra) — An agreement was signed here Wednesday between Jordan and Bahrain to increase the exchange of industrial and agricultural products and the exchange of expertise between the two countries in economic, financial, cultural and educational fields.

The agreement was signed by Jordanian Ministry of Trade and

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Jordan Cooperative Organisation Director Hassan Nabulsi (centre) Wednesday addresses a seminar on 'Food Security in the Arab World'. (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Ministry to revitalise youth activities to solve problems, Khasawneh says

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Minister of Youth Hani Al Khasawneh Wednesday said that his ministry will convene a national youth conference later this year to draw up a youth policy to be implemented as part of a policy to revitalise youth activities in the Kingdom.

Patronising a two-day seminar on youth issues, Dr. Khasawneh, who is also the president of the national committee for the International Year of Youth, said that youth in Jordan are passing through an imposed stage where there is a "sense of belonging lacking." He said that this feeling is due to social stresses and strains imposed on youth by society and the environment.

Dr. Khasawneh outlined the essential role the ministry of education must play in guiding youth. He said that the family role is secondary compared to the role of the ministry.

The seminar, organised by the Amman-based weekly magazine Al Bait Al Arabi, is divided into four sections: Educational problems and vocational guidance for the country's needs; social crises amongst youth before marriage; dowries and their high prices and finding solutions through religion and the youth emigration problem.

Education problems

Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran delivered a wor-

king paper on educational problems, which he categorised into academic crises: the curriculum, school buildings, lack of libraries and laboratories at schools and ill-qualified teachers. He said that the government should concentrate on applied aspects in the school syllabus and that they should also upgrade the financial, social and academic status of teachers.

Dr. Badran also said that a general trend amongst students is to study certain subjects such as medicine and engineering, giving a surplus of graduates in these fields while at the same time leaving other faculties almost vacant.

Mr. Hosni Ayyesh, the former dean of Na'our community college, said that Jordan is facing a false distribution of faculties and vocations and that it is about time that senior officials find the proper solutions for "static mentality and narrow thinking." He said that obtaining a degree in a certain field does not represent the criteria for efficiency, rather it is hard work which creates the degree.

Dr. Mansour Al Otoum, statistics specialist at the Ministry of Labour, said in his working paper that Jordan's labour market has been witnessing an 'imbalanced situation' since 1983. He said that there is a surplus in engineering and medical faculties and a lack of agricultural vocations. Jordan has 13 doctors for each 10,000 people, but in the rural areas the percentage decrease to zero, Dr. Otoum added.

He also said that there is unemployment amongst community college graduates and added that Jordan's expatriates working abroad number 300,000 whilst foreign and Arab labourers in the Kingdom reach about 150,000.

The president of the sociology department at the University of Jordan also delivered a working paper on youth problems before marriage. He said that these problems are connected with the social upbringing process and that youth are facing a dilemma between invading foreign values and traditional social values. He also said that they are facing a cultural split due to this conflict of values.

The vice dean of the Sharia Faculty at the University of Jordan, Dr. Ibrahim Zaid Al Keilani, said that youth are facing a spiritual, mental, social, and political dilemma and he said that they need to balance between the spirit and the mind. Youth have divided into two parts, he said, those who accept the 'fait accompli' position imposed on them without trying to reform or study the situation, or those who are heading towards 'piety'. Both outlooks are running from the facts, he added.

Participants agreed on the necessity of giving youth freedom to discuss their problems in order to surmount the obstacles they are facing and they also agreed to implement the seminar's recommendations.

Experts stress need for more agricultural investment

Nabulsi calls for urgent policies to avert threat of food security problem

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) Director Hassan Nabulsi Wednesday stressed the importance of concentrating on developing the agricultural sector in the Arab World in order to avert the threatening problem of food security.

Speaking during a seminar on "Food Security in the Arab World", organised by the League of Jordanian Writers, Mr. Nabulsi said: "The strategic importance of food security lies in the fact that those who have surplus food will have the upper hand over countries facing food security problems."

He also said that the importance of food security and food production is directly linked to the socio-economic status and the security of a country. However, he added, the priorities in the Arab World are upside down as Arab countries stress on the industrial and services sectors, which does not promote agriculture nor does it assist in solving the food security problems in terms of local food productivity.

Mr. Nabulsi said that proper development plans should stress on upgrading the agriculture sector, which in turn alleviates rural poverty and secures the production of food. He said that two major reasons have hindered the development of the agricultural sector: agricultural loans are not always implemented and executed and natural resources, especially water and fertile soil, are very limited.

Mr. Nabulsi described the situation of the Arab World as "efficiency of low productivity". He also said that there is an imbalance in "fodder production in the form of pastures and animal production," citing the example that Jordan imported 180,000 tonnes of barley in 1984.

Imports dependency

This example, he added, is just one example of our dependency on importing food from outside. He said that failure of not regarding the problem of food security lies on both the national and regional levels and that all Arab countries should make up their minds on a 'defined' food policy, strategy for the agricultural sector and a food security programme.

Dr. Mahdi Obaidi, general secretary of the Council of Arab Economic Unity, described the food security problem as:

"Today's issue due to its importance and possible danger". He said the rate of food sufficiency in the Arab World has dropped, the revenues of the agricultural sector have also decreased and that 60% of the Arab World imports its food. The only solution to such a problem lies in the unity of the Arab World and economic unity, which could solve the problem of food security, Dr. Obaidi added.

Insignificant investment

Dr. Obaidi also said that the investment in the agricultural sector in the Arab World is 'insignificant' compared to the total investments in the services and industrial sector.

Also speaking at the seminar was Dr. Abdul Hamid Al-Kayed, regional director of Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) who said that the concept of food security was generated by studies done by AOAD. He added that the problem of food security affects all the countries of the world and the Arab World in particular due to the fact that food production is inadequate compared to the rate of food consumption in the Arab World. Dr. Kayed stressed the need for an immediate food policy plan that should be implemented.

JPC team to discuss training plan with W.German experts

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation from the Jordanian Ports Corporation (JPC) will make a visit to West Germany by the middle of this month to help work out a training programme for workers employed in the corporation's phosphate section. West German specialists have undertaken to prepare the programme under an agreement signed earlier between the two countries.

Another Ports Corporation delegation is due to make a visit to Casablanca, Morocco, to examine phosphate loading facilities and ways for giving protection to workers employed in the business and in export operations in general.

by Arab governments, and that these governments should encourage and backup local farmers through such a policy.

Dr. Kayed also said that the allocated budget needed to implement food policy plans which should in turn improve the current position of food security amounts up to \$35 billion.

Another speaker at this seminar was Dr. Bassam Al Saket, director of the Pension Fund. Answering a question on what "food sufficiency" means, he said that it is a surplus in the balance of payments or is it an attempt to stabilise the deficit?

Food trends

Dr. Saket added that statistical information has proved that the rate of local food consumption has vastly increased due to the fact of an increase in the population as well as an increase in the individual income. He added that in Jordan every individual pays daily half a dollar to import food, especially that a certain food pattern has become the traditional food consumption pattern. An example, he added, is that the items of food on a daily breakfast table could be described as a collection of 'united nations food products'.

However, Dr. Saket added that the lack of well organised development plans have affected the agricultural sector in particular, whereas the priorities of the past development plans have always gone to the industrial sector as well as the services sector. Dr. Saket stressed the need for an important effective solution to the problems pertaining to food security.

Morocco is the second world largest exporter of phosphates after the United States. Jordan is the major exporter.

Meanwhile it was announced that a Ports Corporation delegation has attended a general assembly meeting of the North African Ports Federation, held in Morocco towards the end of last month. According to Mr. Mohammad Hourani, JPC's director of operations, the participants discussed ways of unifying loading and unloading systems and improving the efficiency of authorities and workers employed in North African ports.

New approach to conserve soil through individual planning

By Monika Warich
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It is estimated that the Jordanian highlands lose about one per cent of their agricultural production or one millimetre of their overall soil cover every year through accelerated soil erosion, according to a feasibility study of the Zarqa River Basin project.

This loss is due to human interference with the especially vulnerable natural equilibrium in a dry climate. The use of too heavy ploughs on dry, shallow soils and on steep slopes is one of the main causes of erosion. In addition to

the loss of the fertile topsoil, it also threatens to considerably reduce the life span of the King Talal reservoir as it is gradually filling up with sediments at an estimated rate of one million cubic metres per year, according to the study.

To find a way of combating this continuing erosion is the main objective of the Zarqa River Basin Project which started work in 1982. It has recently been incorporated into the Department of Forestry and Soil Conservation at the Ministry of Agriculture and is part of the technical cooperation between the Federal Republic of Germany and Jordan. The im-

plementation phase is expected to last ten years from 1986 onwards and costs are estimated at JD 42 million including 8 per cent inflation rate over that period (JD 27 million at 1983 prices).

The feasibility study identifies three objectives for the Project's activities: To reduce soil erosion, to conserve the soil and the reduction of sedimentation into the King Talal reservoir.

As Ahmed Sa'ed Abeer, technical director of the Forest Department explains, the project's present main activities concern the Lower Zarqa Catchment Area, about 82,000 hectares of land with 5,700 farm families. At

the moment, a pilot programme introducing "safe land use" on farms is being implemented.

Most of the erosion in Jordan is on private agricultural land, so any attempt to put an end to it must seek the cooperation of the farmers. Mr. Abeer stresses, if they cannot be won over to join in with the project's activities and be convinced about the benefits for themselves as well as for the whole country, deterioration of the most valuable commodity of a nation, the soil, will continue, he adds.

Khaled Mohammed Rashid, a farmer in Mastaba with 45 dunums of land, said that he is very content with what the project has advised him to do on his land. He joined three years ago and since then has converted 18 dunums of his land to "safe land use". This means that on steep slopes he now cultivates orchards with fruit trees instead of ploughing them and growing crops. With the project's help, he has also built some terraces and stone walls to keep the fertile soil in place and to stop the rainwater from running off very quickly. However, a problem the project cannot solve for him is that his children have left home and do not want to take over the farm. He says: "I'm alone with God to work on my land".

Mr. Mousa Abadi, an extension officer for the project area, confirms that this is a general problem. "The young people leave the hard, and often not very profitable work, on their father's farms to go to Amman and Zarqa," he says.

When the pilot programme was first started in 1982, farmers were not required to contribute to any of the expenses, as an expert member of the project explains. While they were quite happy to let the project work on their farms and land, most of them did not feel obliged to take part in these activities or to maintain the completed measures. Rather they thought this to be the task of the project. So, the obligation to pay part of the costs was introduced in order to create a sense of responsibility on the farmers' part, although it made many farmers think twice about joining the programme, and some even left for that reason.

However, the project is well aware that farmers will not par-

ticipate in the pilot programme unless it results in a rise in their income. At the moment, the farmers have to contribute between 10 and 20 per cent of the costs of soil conservation measures on their land, on top of the normal running costs of their farms. Therefore, in order to achieve its main objectives, the project must help farmers to get higher profits.

On the big farm of Dakheel Ali Al Smeir in the dry Hameed area, a rotational grazing system leaving some of the range land to rest for a whole season, has in its first year already led to a lambing rate of up to 120 per cent, while the usual rate in the area is 80 to 90 per cent.

Another major concern of the project in this context, says expert Mr. Hendriksen, is the introduction of farm machines which do not break up the soil as much as the heavy ploughs presently in use. In particular, the farmers should use chisel ploughs and seed-drills, which are provided for by the project on contract basis, as they are not yet available in the local market. It is the project's intention to demonstrate the benefits of the use of those machines better suited to the soil conditions, so that farmers will become interested and this should eventually encourage local contractors to offer them.

The basis of the cooperation between the farmers and the project is the "Farm Agreement" which was signed by 55 farmers up to now. This means that a survey of the farm is carried out and then a plan is set up on how to improve the pattern of land use and the building of soil conservation structures. Only when every single measure has been discussed between both partners and is agreed upon, a second farm agreement is signed.

Twenty farmers of the pilot project area did so and are now implementing with the practical and financial assistance of the project. In addition to the "On-Farm Development Programme," the Zarqa River Basin Project comprises sub-projects on afforestation and riverbank protection in the Lower Catchment Area. A study was recently submitted concerning the Upper Catchment (Wadi Dhuleil) area where test and research programme has begun early this year.

Erosion, sedimentation reduce storage capacity of King Talal Reservoir

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The King Talal reservoir loses an average of 5.2 per cent of its total storage capacity of water every year due to a continuous settlement of soil on the reservoir bed, brought down from the slopes by rain and stream water, according to Mr. Ghaleb Abu Arabi, director of the range and afforestation department at the Ministry of Agriculture.

He said that the reservoir, which has a 48 million cubic metre storage capacity, will lose half of its water within 25 years if the present situation is allowed to continue unchecked. Mr. Abu Arabi blamed the erosion of soil from

surrounding hillsides for the problem and said that proper measures should be taken to stop this erosion which occurs on nearly 820,000 dunums of land around the Zarqa River Basin and the Wadi Dhuleil region.

In 25 years' time, the Jordan Valley lands will need nearly 40 million cubic metres of water annually and this would not be possible to supply from the reservoir in view of the soil erosion and the settlement of sand and soil on the reservoir's floor, Mr. Abu Arabi said.

Trees, grazing

What causes the erosion is the

removal of trees, which had once covered the slopes of hills overlooking the reservoir, and because of unorganised grazing on at least 270,000 dunums around the dam area, Mr. Abu Arabi pointed out.

Mr. Abu Arabi proposed that these lands be planted with olives, fruit trees and vines, that grazing should be prohibited on land that receives less than 250 mm of rainfall annually and that lands with steep slopes should be planted with forest trees immediately.

For this to happen, he said, the Ministry of Agriculture needs 19 million forest saplings and at least 10 million fruit tree saplings, and the pasture zone around the lake area should be fenced off.

Pilot projects

At present a pilot project is underway in two areas in the Jerash and Ma'traq districts where new techniques for preserving soil are being introduced and new ways for developing agricultural land are being employed, Mr. Abu Arabi said. An agreement has been concluded between the Ministry of Agriculture, the farmers and the crop producers to undertake these techniques through mutual cooperation, aid from the ministry and compliance by the farmers to adhere to the drawn up plans, he added.

Regarding state-owned land, Mr. Abu Arabi said another programme for preserving soil and conserving water has been launched. At least 12,000 dunums of land around the Zarqa River Basin is being planted with trees every year in order to help prevent soil erosion, he explained.

According to Mr. Abu Arabi, the Ministry of Agriculture has been opening agricultural roads and centres for agricultural extension services to help make this campaign a success.



The King Talal Dam (J.T. file photo)

Jordan Times

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VIEW FROM AMERICA

Mideast destiny will be decided by its peoples

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — The National Geographic magazine is one of America's most popular publications. Its board of directors contains names of powerful and influential people. In its last issue it published a pictorial report on the city of Baghdad. It presented a very favourable image of Iraq. Astonishingly modern city many of whose newest buildings were completed while the war with Iran was raging.

A month ago the New York Times published an article by one of its writers who had been to Iran. The article featured a large photograph of the vast cemetery in Tehran called the Behesht-i Zahra with the

crimson-coloured foundation that symbolises blood. The grim message of the article was that a cult of death prevails in Iran.

Diplomatic relations have been reestablished between the U.S. and Iraq. Maybe this influenced the National Geographic to print the piece on Iraq. U.S.-Iranian relations remain very poor and not surprisingly coverage of Iran remains negative.

But seeing pictures of the new Baghdad reminded me that much more was involved than media images. There are deep historical roots in the Middle East. Often they seem withered by the hot desert winds, but the roots are always

there nourished by deep springs.

Human civilisation began in the Middle East with cities. Ur, Nineveh, Babylon, Luxor, Thebes. Then came Alexandria, Damascus may be the oldest city in the world. Baghdad was founded by the Abbasids. Cairo arose on the site of ancient Fustat. Abdurrahman III founded Cordova on an old Roman town. The Prophet began his Hijra from a trading city, Mecca, and went to Medina, whose name means city in Arabic.

Seeing those pictures of Baghdad made me think that Baghdad is like Cairo, a great city of the Arab World. The

mood seems different from Cairo but the message from those pictures was clear: the ancient urban grandeur of Mesopotamia has come to life again.

Cities are not just places where people live. They are contact points of networks. We live in a world economy where the contact points are great cities. Roads go in and out of cities. In ancient times, the Roman Empire was made up of cities between which people travelled constantly. The great medieval Arab empires were linked by cities between which there was endless travel. Will Baghdad now too open up like the great Arab cities of the

past?

Both Iraq and Iran are hostile to Western journalists, and with good reason. Nevertheless, one of the great marks of earlier civilisations was the journeying of ideas between cities as well as people. The greatest scholars of the ancient Arab World constantly travelled between Baghdad, Cairo, Damascus, Fez, Cordova.

Cairo is open but lacks the technology and organisation that Baghdad now enjoys, but political uncertainty and the war still keep the wraps of control tightly on Baghdad. Both could use what the other has. The Middle East is now passing a great watershed. There is no external power that can now impose its will. Neither the U.S. nor the Soviet Union. The Zionist state has begun a decline which will accelerate. The historical destiny of the Middle East will be decided by, for, and through the peoples of the Middle East themselves.

The emergence of Baghdad as a great city will be one of the determining forces in that history. Perhaps the war with Iran had something to do with that. Or perhaps the deep roots of history sprang out of the ground again near the confluence of the two great rivers. In any case, new history is being made.

Practical solution and the PLO

IT is a pity that the PLO Executive Committee is not yet ready to take the joint initiative with Jordan that His Majesty the King has called for. In many ways, the decision is also wrong.

The Palestinian leaders, who have been meeting in Tunis to discuss the Jordanian proposals for joint political moves on the Palestinian problem during the past several days, have finally ruled that it is too early for them to take about the only real chance left for achieving peace in this area peacefully. They would rather wait for King Fahd to visit Washington and until his return, for President Mubarak's visit there in March and for the results of the Algerian president's talks with the Reagan administration.

The underlying belief of Chairman Arafat and the majority of his colleagues in rejecting the Jordanian formula is that the rejection would at least keep for them their representativeness of the Palestinian people. We are not arguing with or against this concept. Jordan still firmly believes that the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and insists that the organisation should be fully represented in any peace process. What we do not understand is the expectation that some solution could be found when there is nothing but in action on our side.

It is all right if King Fahd tells Mr. Arafat that the PLO should stick to its historical position on the problem, and not move an inch towards the Americans until he has seen and talked with them. But do the Palestinians really think the Saudi King's, or for that matter the Egyptian or the Algerian president's, visit to the U.S. will produce an American recognition of the PLO? With Jordan at least the question of recognition of Palestinian representation becomes semantic. If indeed there is a genuine movement towards peace. And why should semantics be a major obstacle to regaining Palestinian rights, may we ask? In whose interest is it to sacrifice the people and the land of Palestine in the name of the PLO? God bless, Jordan is behind every sincere Arab — or international effort — to secure for the Palestinian people and their representatives what they want. King Hussein and the government have never failed to believe in or say these words. So has every Jordanian on this land. But what have we achieved thus far? It takes another, perhaps totally different, approach by the Arabs if they really want to help the PLO and the Palestinians regain their rights. A trip to Washington by any Arab leader, or all of them combined, will not present an answer. We should know this from experience by now. Concerted Arab action, maybe; but not trips abroad. But where is the common action? Is it to be found in Syrian support for Iran against Iraq, and for the PLO dissidents against Arafat? Is it in Morocco's conflict with Algeria over the Sahara? Or in Col. Qadhafi's anti-Arab hit squads?

Let us face it, the Arab World has not yet learned to face its problems with practical solutions. When a country like Jordan does, it is usually the others that are asked to call the shots. For how long this game will continue, only God knows. We hope the PLO will one day understand that.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Terror with U.S. aid

WHEN THE world had condemned Zionism as a racist movement, we never thought that this would be the end, and we hoped that steps would be taken by the international community to stem its danger.

The world is now witnessing organised terrorism committed by Zionist groups against the defenceless people of Dheish camp in the occupied West Bank. Those following up reports about developments in the Dheish camp realise that the Arab inhabitants are facing continuous acts of persecution and repression at the hands of the Israeli government and the Zionist groups that have been besieging the camp in a bid to force its people to leave. At the head of these Zionist terrorist groups is Rabbi Moshe Levinger, who is determined to uproot the Arabs from their camp prior to evicting them from the whole of Palestine.

It is tragic to see this happening to our kinsmen and with the whole world keeping silent about the crimes of the Zionists. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has recently invited Western nations to impose punishment on countries which practise terrorism and we support this call, and hope that the racist-Zionist terrorist actions committed by the state of Israel against the Arabs will be dealt with by the implementation of the official Israeli government policy of evicting as many Arabs as possible from the occupied territories. Throughout its wars against the Arabs, Israel has been keen on bombing Palestinian refugee camps in the West Bank and in Lebanon with the purpose of removing from the minds of the world any memory of the Palestinian people and so help liquidate the Palestinian problem. In Gaza, the Israelis used bulldozers to remove the refugee camps under different pretexts, but for the sole purpose of removing the refugees from Palestine for ever.

The new trend in Israeli arbitrary practices against the Arabs should be dealt with at the United Nations level and should be confronted by the Arab countries with all their might.

The crime that is being committed at Dheish camp in the West Bank now is something more grotesque than earlier Zionist practices. These Zionist settlers, who include members of the Israeli government and the Knesset, are tightening their siege around the camp in a bid to force its inhabitants to abandon it for good. Several Zionist groups have attempted to storm the camp and drive its people away in implementation of the official Israeli government policy of evicting as many Arabs as possible from the occupied territories. Throughout its wars against the Arabs, Israel has been keen on bombing Palestinian refugee camps in the West Bank and in Lebanon with the purpose of removing from the minds of the world any memory of the Palestinian people and so help liquidate the Palestinian problem. In Gaza, the Israelis used bulldozers to remove the refugee camps under different pretexts, but for the sole purpose of removing the refugees from Palestine for ever.

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By Alistair Lyon
 Reuters

BEIRUT — They swarmed onto the streets at midday without warning, assault rifles and rocket launchers at the ready, trading fire with Lebanese Army troops as civilians raced in panic for their homes.

The date, Feb. 6, 1984, is remembered in Lebanon as the day the Shi'ite Muslim Amal Movement and the Druze-led Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) wrested control of mainly Muslim west Beirut from demoralised army troops.

Many of the soldiers, Shi'ites from the southern suburbs who had seen their homes battered for weeks by army shelling from Christian east Beirut, quickly fraternised with the Syrian-backed rebels.

Army units loyal to Amin Gemayel, the Christian president, retaliated from east Beirut with a 17-hour artillery barrage that rivalled the heaviest bombardments

by Israeli troops besieging west Beirut in the summer of 1982.

A few days later, the PSP swept the army, from all its positions south of the Beirut-Damascus road, except the town of Souq Al-Gharb guarding the approach to Mr. Gemayel's palace.

Mr. Gemayel's position appeared hopeless, especially after the withdrawal of a multinational force of U.S., French, British and Italian troops that had supported his government.

As fighting raged on, he turned to Syria, which bitterly opposed the troop withdrawal accord he had negotiated with Israel and shared the hostility of its ally, the Soviet Union, to the presence of Western troops in Beirut.

Mr. Gemayel bowed to Syrian pressure and scrapped the U.S.-sponsored agreement with Israel in March.

Anxious to halt Lebanon's slide towards disintegration, Damascus persuaded Mr. Gemayel's Muslim opponents to attend a reconciliation conference in Switzerland and then join a "national unity" government in April.

A year after the February uprising, representatives of the main Christian and Muslim militias recognise it as a turning-point in Lebanon's civil war, but are deeply divided over its results.

Naoum Farah, spokesman of the mainly Christian Lebanese Forces militia, told Reuters Feb. 6 was "a sad anniversary because on that day the state collapsed, the army collapsed and anti-governmental forces took power in some areas of Lebanon".

Amal's Ghassan Sibiani saw it as "a birthday we will all celebrate", the day "the people stood up to say no to injustice and domination, to defend their lives, property and freedom".

Marwan Hamadeh of the PSP said it "achieved major successes in the battle for the liberation and unity of Lebanon".

"The hero of Feb. 6 was (Syrian President) Hafez Al-Assad," said Mr. Farah, citing Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's recent

admission that Syria had won a political victory in Lebanon.

Muslim Leaders are proud of the blow their youthful gunmen dealt to U.S. diplomacy and Israeli ambitions to establish a friendly right-wing dominated government in Beirut, but say the revolt also aimed at reforming Lebanon's political system.

Fighting only eased in July, when a government peace plan reinstated army troops on the "Green Line" across Beirut, reopened the port and airport after five-month closures and checked shelling duels that had killed hundreds of civilians.

But the "national unity" cabinet, embracing representatives of the main militias, has yet to fulfil promises to reconcile warring sects and enact reforms giving Muslims a bigger share of power.

Mr. Sibiani said Amal leader Nabih Berri had decided to concentrate on establishing security before political reform "a 180-degree turn" — because the priority was to liberate South Lebanon from Israeli occupation, and continued instability threatened economic ruin.

But if reforms were delayed too long "there will be no Lebanon left. The extremists will take over," Mr. Sibiani said.

A year after Feb. 6, no end to Lebanon's agony is in sight and Israel's protracted pullout has raised fears that sectarian bloodshed could spread to the South.

Israeli and Syrian troops and Lebanese militias still control all but small pockets of Lebanese territory and years of violence and disruption have caused an unprecedented economic slump.

Despite the declared support of Amal and the PSP for efforts to restore army control in west Beirut, bombings, kidnappings, robberies and sporadic street battles continue.

Mr. Hamadeh conceded "a certain degree of anarchy" in west Beirut, but said it was better than the military control before Feb. 6, which he called "a total exercise in dictatorship with a curfew, arbitrary arrests and disappearances of people".

Mr. Sibiani blamed the government for the insecurity, saying it had refused to equip Muslim army troops adequately, and had even stirred up inter-Muslim rivalries and planted bombs "to make people cry out for the situation before Feb. 6".

The government had made no effort to repair war damage in impoverished Shi'ite suburbs, Mr. Sibiani said. "Deprivation has become deprivation squared," he added.

Amal and PSP anniversary celebrations may be overshadowed by Israel's pullout from Sidon, to be completed by Feb. 18, and the effort to avert possible sectarian fighting there.

The withdrawal would be a crucial test for Lebanon and the government, said Mr. Farah. If the Lebanese Army failed to move into Sidon, "We will face a new collapse, new dangers and new disorders."



Arabs weary at Europe's foot-dragging

THE ARABS are becoming increasingly weary with the European Community's (EC) failure to act on the Palestinian question, and Britain is perceived as primarily responsible, according to well-placed sources.

At their summit in Dublin last December, EC leaders contented themselves with a re-iteration of the established European position on Palestine, which calls for Palestinian self-determination and for the PLO to be "associated" with any peace negotiations. This stance has hardly changed since the Venice Declaration of June 1980.

Arab disappointment at the outcome of the Dublin summit was underlined in a statement from Chedli Klibi, the Arab League Secretary General. "We were expecting a more advanced position reaffirming the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, with all that that implies, and notably the right to build a state," he said. The EC, by "restricting itself to a reference to preceding declarations has not given the Palestinian cause all the importance which it deserves".

He concluded: "We had expected the Dublin declaration to announce an initiative, which the community countries are undoubtedly best placed to undertake."

It is understood that the EC's position, and particularly that of Britain, could be high on the agenda of the next Arab summit meeting, which is scheduled to convene in the Saudi capital Riyadh later this year — CAABU Bulletin.

Caabu Bulletin is a monthly circular published by the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding, London.

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New Zealand Premier Lange comes out as anti-nuclear crusader

By John Coombers
 Reuters

WELLINGTON — Fan mail congratulating Prime Minister David Lange on his tough anti-nuclear stand against the United States is flooding into his office, his staff said Tuesday.

They said that at least 2,000 letters and telegrams had been received over the past few days, most of it supporting his uncompromising position on visiting American warships.

At least 500 messages have arrived from Australia, allies in the ANZUS military alliance with the United States and New Zealand.

Wellington's refusal to permit American nuclear-capable warships to use its ports has resulted in forthcoming ANZUS manoeuvres being cancelled.

"I feel like flying over and hugging you all for your anti-nuclear stand," wrote Jude Buckland of the Australian state of Tasmania.

And 13-year-old Mungo McCall of Sydney said, "I support you fully on this matter and wish we here had a prime minister as sensible as you."

As the result of Wellington's anti-nuclear stand, Mr. Lange finds himself the pin-up boy of peace groups and many ordinary people.

It is an image which sits well with him. The former Methodist lay preacher has progressed in a few years from a back-street lawyer among Auckland's disadvantaged to a world political figure.

Mr. Lange speaks of the government's "moral imperative" not to back down.

"I have very few really burning convictions in political life, and being opposed to nuclear armaments escalation and their existence is one of them," he told a press conference last week.

Mr. Lange did not sweep to power last July on the promise of a nuclear-free New Zealand. He won more by default as New Zealanders put aside their basic conservatism in their anxiety to be rid of the long-serving Sir Robert Muldoon.

But once in control Mr. Lange has proved himself a remarkably astute and persuasive leader, according to political analysts.

It has taken some time for him to convince the United States and Australia that the government line is not a sop to the lunatic left, but reflects the opinions of mainstream New Zealand.

In a country in which opinion polls are relatively infrequent, it is impossible to judge accurately his current support on this issue.

In August last year a poll showed that 58 per cent of New Zealanders were opposed to visits by



David Lange

nuclear-armed warships, against 30 per cent who supported them. Twelve per cent had no opinion.

At the same time 59 per cent favoured visits by nuclear-powered ships (which was Mr. Lange's personal preference until party policy dictated otherwise) against 29 per cent who were against.

Mr. Lange himself had a pre-Christmas public approval rating of 70 per cent and analysts believe he will be riding even higher following the events of recent days.

Certainly his popularity is at an all-time high in his own party. Rumblings of rebellion among the leftists were silenced by the hard-line stand, and all 55 other members of the government caucus stood to applaud him last week.

Analysts agree that Mr. Lange's stance appeals to New Zealanders.

The isolated country of just over three million people is seen to be standing on its own two feet, telling the world's most powerful nation that it is not about to be shoved around on a point of principle, they said.

The previous Labour government of 1972-75 generated much the same feeling when it sent a lone frigate to Mururoa in the South Pacific to protest against French nuclear testing, and helped force the programme underground in 1975.

Major newspapers have pointed out the anomaly of an anti-nuclear policy which condones sending New Zealand servicemen to exercise with nuclear-powered and armed ships while barring them from coming to the country's ports.

But in general New Zealanders' reception of their government's stand is reflected in a cartoon appearing in the capital's morning newspaper The Dominion this week.

It showed a modest Lange holding a "no-nukes" paper behind his back while a baby masked "future generation" crawled towards him saying: "Thank you."

THE LITERARY CORNER

Husni Fareez — a bilingual writer

WRITING ABOUT Husni Fareez, who embodies the history of Jordanian literature, gets one into an intellectual time-tunnel — a wonderland of literature which begins in 1907, when a great poet (he likes to be referred to as a poet) was born. The tunnel takes one to old Salt, to the old orchards of Salt, in which the good Salts used to spend their marvelous summer nights singing, dancing and telling stories. At one point in the tunnel, one sees the poor lad, the youngest of three brothers, bullied and harassed by older boys who "rarely gave me the chance to kick a ball." — a frustration representing the core of the poet's cynicism.

Husni Fareez, a mason's son, managed, despite poverty, to finish elementary, preparatory and secondary schooling at the famous Salt Secondary School. The fact that Fareez was awarded a scholarship to study at the American University of Beirut was a turning point in the poet's life — an illuminating point in the tunnel, which the writer remembers with awe and affection. He greatly reveres those professors who taught him, he even thinks that they were the best in the Arab World ever. Mr. Fareez happily remembers the slight chance of Arab unity which the AUB offered him: he had friends and mates from all over the Arab World (not partitioned yet). In 1932, the pioneer graduate came back to his beloved Jordan with a B.A. degree in history, and was appointed a teacher at public schools.

"I was a successful teacher. I never asked my students to stand up as I departed the classroom. Students, who usually resent history classes, enjoyed mine." He also prides himself over the fact that he was a democratic, humble teacher: "I once gave in to a nonentity student who paraphrased a line of poetry better than I did."

"The Temples of Love (1938)" is the first literary landmark in the tunnel. He is very proud of his poetry, especially the love songs:

*In love I attained sublimity at your upper horizons
I wonder, do I see a dream? I feel alive.
Before this love my life was nothing O my heart! How happy
thou art!
O life! How beautiful thou art!*

Because Husni Fareez was the first Jordanian to write in English, concentration in this article will be placed on words written by him in English, although his literary works in Arabic are far more advanced, profound and excellent.

Away from this welcomed interruption, and coming backward in the tunnel, we see the poet promoted to a headmaster and later on to an inspector — the chief inspector of English. During this period, he wrote supplementary text books in English.

The year 1952 witnessed the birth of the first short story collection to be written in English as a supplementary text book. The collection was entitled, "I Remember" — some kind of an autobiography, I personally was one of the students who read the

collection and admired the Jordanian who wrote it. In 1965, he wrote another supplementary book in English: it was entitled "The Shepherd Boy." Bassam, the leading character goes to Jerash to see his uncle Haj Ali, the only man who could help him:

"The tall pillars stood up taller now against the sky as Bassam came nearer. The rain seemed a little gentler, and far away he could see dim lights. He began to run, but a bush was in his path and he nearly fell over it. He walked round the edge of the old city and saw not far from it the roofs of little houses and some trees. The path turned aside in that direction. He hurried onward.... At last he was walking along the village street. It was quite empty."

Still in the tunnel we see many books exhibited: "Stories and Criticism (1954)," "My Country," "Adventures of a woman Repentant (1964)," "Cleopatra (translation)," "The Biography of Tagore (translation)," "Myths of Greece and Rome (translation)," "Markings of Hammarskjöld (translation)."

Now we come to the year 1965 in which he wrote "Stories from the Arab World." In this book, which is also a supplementary English text book, the writer reflects his wonderful sense of humor:

"My grandmother was eighty years old when I was quite a young child. She was tall and thin. She had a wrinkled face and small bright eyes. She was a light-hearted woman and she liked telling stories. She was also famous for her jokes. One day my mother went to her and said: 'Come and see the new chickens. They are very funny.' My grandmother quickly said: 'I like chickens better on a dish.'"

In the same collection he writes the following joke about "Al-Jahiz":

More than 1100 years ago, the great writer, Al-Jahiz of Basra, died. We remember him now because of his many books, but even more because of his jokes. He was a very good joker, but he was never ashamed to laugh at himself. He told us that once a woman he did not know came to him and asked him to walk with her. She took him to a goldsmith's shop and said to the goldsmith: 'I want it to be just like this.' Then she pointed at Al-Jahiz and went away. Al-Jahiz asked the goldsmith what the woman wanted. The goldsmith said: 'She wanted me to make a little gold devil, and when I told her that I had never seen a devil, she brought you'."

Mr. Fareez like to tell stories of the good old days. In a short story entitled "Abu Awwad" and written in English, the jovial writer tells of a forty-year-old man "Who had strong muscles and a strange inclination to create trouble." The man "proved to be the strongest man in the quarter in which he lived. He was disliked by the people and could not get married until he was over thirty years old."

One day we meet him "with his donkey loaded with a sack of wheat going to the mill to get his wheat turned into flour." Having yet another inclination to brag, the man slaps a young

The good old Salti

man in the mill, pretending to have mistaken him for another young man with whose tribe there was some kind of feud — a calculated step to prove that he was a trouble maker, and thus impress the mill technician into grinding his wheat first. The technician was not convinced; on the contrary, he demonstrated his physical ability by loading a mule with some heavy stuff. When the man's attempts went in vain, he started telling the people at the mill of some Don Quixotic tales. The moment he finished telling his lies (mostly about his strength), "a mule brayed."

The old writer is accused of being a cynic. When faced with this accusation, the jovial Fareez answers blithely: "Who is not? Do you expect of an Arab living in the present time not to be so? I personally led a poor life. Since childhood, I have always been an object for frustration and harassment. Many, many things in the Arab World lead to frustration." A major source of frustration for the old poet is modern Arab poets, whose works not only upset him but also come under extensive and incessant fire. Commenting on those poets, he told me a wonderful Arabic proverb: "Sour grape transformed into raisin will never lose its acidity." Modern Arabic poetry (free verse) is, in his opinion, a means for hiding failure in writing Arabic poetry (notice that he does not mention old or modern for Arabic poetry to him is one at all times).

However, Mr. Fareez is a rare commodity in today's friendship. His book "Life Friends" is an excellent piece of art on the famous men of art, literature, sociology and politics in Jordan. In it, the writer reflects his rare devotion to the friends that he loved greatly. Of the late Adnan Al-Qassem, the great humanitarian Jordanian he writes:

"I have been told that when the Thai girls, who are known to be amiable, snelle, agile and glamorous, saw that piece of mountain (Adnan) passing by with his smiling eyes, they said, 'He is like Buddha'."

And finally we arrive at the last station in the tunnel: a Friday column in Al-Rai daily, in which the retired undersecretary of the Ministry of Education harnesses his excellent Arabic to serve literature, politics and the daily concerns of the Jordanian citizen.

Husni Fareez is a father of six girls, all married, and all college graduates. The eldest among them, a physician, is influenced by her father and "even better read and more educated."

Now, I only covered one side — a small one of Husni Fareez's literary contribution. A short article like mine cannot do justice to the man who is considered, in fact, one of the pillars of literature and thought in Jordan. A man such as Husni Fareez, whose works are engraved in children's hearts, intellectuals' minds and in the country's conscience, will always be remembered with love, respect and pride — the least laudation for a great man.

— Ahmad Jaber

Randa Habib's Corner

Arabic food menu needed

WHEN YOU are being visited by a foreigner and you want to take him out to dinner, where do you go? To the Chinese Restaurant, Italian, French, Turkish, Greek... If you are lucky, there will be a culinary week in one of the luxury hotels: Indian week, German, Austrian or Mexican.

But if your guest feels like eating Jordanian food and to sample our rich Arab cooking that he has heard so much about, then you invite him home for dinner. You courageously start cooking and stuffing vine leaves and courgettes. You take out your cook book to find the best way to make an ouzi, "kebbeh sine", "sayadiye", and what not? But no way can you dine out.

The reason is quite simple and shocking: We do not have (or have very little) restaurants that serve Arabic food. The few restaurants that serve Arabic food that you can go to are in fact serving mezza and mechoui (meats, chicken, kebab etc...) but nothing else, while we all know that oriental food is not limited to mezza.

There are so many dishes that can easily fill a menu carte; the Arabic food being one of the richest and most varied. Everything can be stuffed, stewed, and simmered.

As for desserts, no need to enumerate them here and even so this column cannot take them all. Where is the secret then? How come we do not have in Amman a restaurant truly and totally devoted to serving Arabic food? Let us hope that soon perhaps we will have a pioneer in this field.

First Arab satellite ready for lift-off

By Nicholas Moore

RIYADH — The Arab World's first satellite is scheduled to be placed into orbit on Friday, a major example of inter-Arab cooperation at a time when the area is beset by political problems.

Arabsat-One, commanding a swathe of earth from the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf to Mauritania on the Atlantic, will be placed into geostationary orbit by a West European Ariane rocket that will blast off from French Guiana.

The satellite, with 8,000 telephone and eight television channels, will significantly boost communication links in and among Arab states, officials at the Riyadh headquarters of the Arab League's Satellite Communications Organisation say.

To date, Arab states have relied on the International Intelsat System for spaceborne communications.

Egypt is the only Arab state not participating in the project because of its suspension from the 22-member Arab League following its 1979 peace treaty with Israel, the officials in the Saudi Arabian capital said.

The officials take pride in the project at a time when political differences have forced repeated postponement of an Arab summit due to have convened in Riyadh 15 months ago.

The say Arabsat, 36,000 kilometres above the earth, will help to rectify poor internal communications in sprawling countries such as Sudan and Mauritania.

Relief aid workers have cited bad communications in Sudan as a factor hampering efforts to cope with refugees from famine in neighbouring Ethiopia and Chad.

The Arab League set up the Arabsat Organisation in 1976. Three Arabsat-One satellites, each weighing 1,200 kilos, have been built by aerospace of France.

nce at a total cost of \$134 million. The U.S. space shuttle is scheduled to place the second satellite, as a standby, in orbit on May 30. The third will remain on the ground as a spare.

Arabsat says the system should be operational this year and that with main tracking and control bases in Saudi Arabia and Tunisia and earth stations in some 20 Arab states, the eventual overall cost could reach \$500 million.

Ground stations will range from major sites in big cities, to cope with heavy telephone traffic and television transmission, to portable "dishes" for emergency links and small units for television reception in remote areas.

"The system is designed to meet the traffic requirements forecasted through 1990," says Dr. Ali Mashat of Iraq, Arabsat's director-general.

He says Arabsat will complement the global Intelsat system. Although primarily intended for telephone, television and radio transmission, it will offer more exotic data services, including facsimile transmission and teleconferencing.

The Arab Satellite Communications Organisation was formed to design, implement and operate the Arabsat system and also help Arab League member-states to design and build their own ground stations and develop space communication industries.

Participants are Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, North and South Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The Arabsat-One due to go aloft on Friday looks like a large box with dish antennae at either end. Long, slender wings bearing an array of solar panels to provide power will unfurl after it reaches orbit.

Little 'Brownies from Jordan' make big hit in Orlando

WHEN six-year-old girls play "dress-up", they almost always steal the show. And that's just what "Orlando" chapter coordinator Sharon Saidi's Brownies troop did last spring at the annual International Dinner of the area Girl Scouts.

Ms. Saidi's nine Brownies dressed in native Arab costumes and gave a five minute recital of facts about Jordan, while other troops presented better known stories of countries like Mexico, Italy and the United States.

"They were a big hit because they were so little," said Sharon of her mini-minions. After all, what could be more adorable than a three-foot-tall first grader dressed like a Jordanian bedouin soldier?

In addition to informing some 300 diners about Jordan's geo-

graphy, population and customs, Ms. Saidi's Brownies had a four-by-eight foot relief map as an informative backdrop for their presentation.

The project was somewhat daunting and took several months to put together, according to Ms. Saidi. "Since I figured that not too many people would do an Arab country, I decided to do Jordan," she said. Ms. Saidi had previously travelled to Jordan and had brought back some costumes. These were fitted to the young models and others were made from scratch. One girl wore a typical schoolgirl jumper of wool; another dressed in Palestinian garb; yet another wore a belly dancer costume — this at the troop's insistence, despite Ms. Saidi's protestations that this was not typical

dress.

In doing research for the food portion of the project, Ms. Saidi took her troop to a local Middle East bakery, where many of her Brownies tasted Arab bread for the first time — and were duly impressed. "It was cute to watch them," Ms. Saidi reported. After the trip to the bakery, she said, "they were more enthusiastic about doing the project."

Following their smash engagement at the Orlando International Dinner, the troop took the show on the road to nearby Red Bug Elementary School in Casselberry, where the physical education teacher asked them to wear their costumes while the "dabke" was taught to all the P.E. classes — ADC Times.



Orlando Brownie troop stages hit skit about Jordan

U.S. film industry sinks deeper into the world of fantasy

As the U.S. film industry sinks deeper into the world of fantasy and science-fiction, Nigel Andrews, the *Financial Times* film critic, visits Hollywood and New York in an attempt to place a finger on its pulse.

HOLLYWOOD — Orson Welles, while making "Citizen Kane," called the machinery of movie-making "the greatest train set a boy ever had." The remark could be a motto for Hollywood in the 1980s, when almost the entire industry seems given to big-screen fun and games, and every major movie lot you wander into seems to host a Sci-Fi extravaganza or a sword-and-sorcery film or a fairy tale writ new and extra-spectacular for today's kid-dywnks.

"Spielberg and Lucas, what have you wrought?" one first feels like crying. But while delirium lasts, one might as well sit back and enjoy. And my first visit to Hollywood in five years found a delight in fantasy among film-makers that was both paramount and universal.

The Spielberg speciality, of course, is to mix Sci-Fi fantasy with small-town nostalgia, and his production company is now beavering away at Universal Studios on "Back To The Future."

Beyond the chic-ly sprawling, adobe-style "Spielberg Building"

— the studio's gift to the wonder-boy of E.T. — stands the mass of back-lot streets on which director Robert Zemeckis (of *Romancing The Stone*) and designer Lawrence G. Paull (*Blade Runner*) have built the town square that in this time-travel tale will switch about between 1955 and 1985.

The square was in 1955, mode when I saw it with Barbara Stanwyck and Ronald Reagan narquce-billed in *Cattle Queen of Montana* at the local cinema, a 50s-style eatery on the corner ("Lou's Diner," a haven of chrome and ketchup bottles) and even rows of 50s-style shell-head parking meters on the pavement.

It is this \$14 million time-warped fantasy looks like being at the nostalgic end of the Sci-Fi spectrum, the latest Joe Dante project is a heady chunk of galactic futurism. Dante is following his smash-hit "Gremlins" with "The Explorers", and he has taken over Paramount Studios to do so. The true star of space movies is, of course, the production designer and on this film it's Hollywood veteran Robert Boyle (of *Shadow of a*

Doubt and *The Birds*).

Mr. Boyle showed me round the art department, where his assistants were lovingly painting miniature spaceships, modules, starships, and those whirls of psychedelic gases — colourful as a Naepolitan ice — which girdle all self-respecting planets in today's space films.

Is fantasy overtaking reality in modern Hollywood? I asked Mr. Boyle. "If it were overtaking it completely, it would be a shame," he says, a slimline Hemingway in check shirt and bristling white beard. "But I think there's plenty of room for both. Of course it's movies like 'Explorers' — and 'Star Wars.' E.T., Close Encounters — that are bringing kids back into the cinema. Because these films give them size and spectacle and fireworks. But I'd like to see the cinema get back to what it does best, which is mixing reality and fantasy. I made four films with Alfred Hitchcock, and no one could touch him for that: finding the spectacular in the everyday, that's what movies should be aiming for."

But however much I burned up Los Angeles in my hired Renault, I didn't find much sign of the everyday creeping into Hol-

lywood. Indeed the place isn't even made for the everyday. Even my hotel on Sunset Strip, the legendary Chateau Marmont (home-from-home of the stars), looks as if it has escaped from a Disney film and is still brushing the dust of fantasy from its feet. And when I first drew back the curtains in my room to inspect the view of L.A., there wasn't one. My entire field of vision was dominated by two giant billboards, each the size of a container lorry, one suadded with lights and advertising John Carpenter's new SF fantasy "Starman," the other looking across the road to tout Peter Hyams's 2001 sequel, 2010.

You cannot, of course, walk the streets without stumbling into the famous. Isn't that Sidney Politer coming into the vegetarian restaurant I'm eating at, as I'm about to chomp a hot hamburger? (It is). Isn't that Richard Dreyfuss crossing Hollywood Boulevard with a script six inches from his nose and paying no attention to the traffic?

Meanwhile the studios are alive, as indicated, with the non-stop sound of fantasy. The most ongoing "state of the art" project is probably producer Shelley Duvall's video and TV series "Faerie Tale Theatre." These are being filmed at East Hollywood's ABC Studios and are harnessing the latest technology, the starriest actors (from Liza Minnelli to Mick Jagger to Christopher Reeve) and the sturdiest fairy tales in a prolific production bonanza that has already turned out 30-odd of the hour-long tales.

Of course the biggest fairy tale of all in modern Moviedom is one that probably won't ever get made by Miss Duvall. And that is the Oscar-fuelled success of Britain in the 1980s. Were "Chariots of Fire" and "Gandhi" flashes in the pan? Not to judge by the mind-boggling queue, circling two sides of a block. I saw one night outside a Westwood cinema showing "The Killing Fields."

And on a whirlwind visit to New

York, what two movie VIPs should I stumble upon, lording it in a foreign land, but two Britishers, Michael Powell and Sir Richard Attenborough. Powell, fresh from a spell as member of Francis Coppola's think tank at Zoetrope Studios, is now writing his three-volume autobiography; which since he was the director of "The Thief of Baghdad," "A Matter of Life and Death," "Black Narcissus," "The Red Shoes," "Peeping Tom" and many other mil-estone British movies, is probably the hottest memoir in British film history.

Mr. Powell, a hale and healthy 79, has just married American film editor Thelma Schoonmaker (of *Raging Bull*), lives in a Chelsea-style cottage in Greenwich Village and is still urging everyone he ever meets to go out and make a film. "Everyone has a film in them," he told me. "You, Nigel, you have a film in you. Go out and make it!"

Unfortunately, with only half a day left in New York, I didn't have time to visit Sir Richard Attenborough, who is now busy at Broadway's Mark Hellinger Theatre directing "A Chorus Line." Sir Richard came up the aisle to greet me with a friendly smile. "This is a bold move," he said, doubtless remembering that we hadn't quite seen eye to eye over the virtues of his film "Gandhi."

"People who go to see 'Chorus Line' at the theatre have been three, four, five times," he says, when I wonder politely how many people will want to see the movie version after the stage musical has now been in business for ten years. "For some people it's a way of life! Because of course the fascinating thing is, it's not a normal musical — in the sense of a story set to music. It's not set in a factory where people suddenly, and somewhat implausibly, break into song. It's about people who want to make music, it's about the musical theatre itself. So it has to have

a basis of truth in the way it's done, and that's what I've tried to keep pumping into the kids. The truth of the performance is 1,000 times more important than the vocal tone!"

Hands gesturing, smile flashing and mutton-chops whirling, Sir Richard is such a dab proselytiser that one sometimes wonders if he shouldn't have played Gandhi. (No disrespect to the admirable Ben.) And on the subject of that Oscar-lauded opus, what did it feel like now to be making a movie in a single theatre after one that traversed a whole sub-continent? Were there any signs of claustrophobia?

"No, not at all. I like doing movies on a large scale, but what matters to me is setting the individual within that large scale. I'm interested in what emotions do to people — how they react under stress. So whether one's dealing with the British Raj in India or with Churchill (in "Young Winston") or General Browning (Oh What A Lovely War!), it's the same really as dealing with a group of 17 "hopefuls" at a Broadway audition as we have here. And it's just as challenging to film these individuals under pressure as to film a crowd of half a million from 19 different camera positions."

Soon Sir Richard was back on stage determining with photographer Ronnie Taylor (of Gandhi) and choreographer Jeffrey Hornaday (of Flashdance) the two or three cameras with which they would cover Vikki Fredericks, Michelle Johnston and Pam Klinger for the three-voice "Ballet" number.

As in Hollywood, so in New York, it seems. In movies the imagination has mountains; and given the right mix of talent and energy a studio stage, a back-lot or even a vacated Broadway theatre can serve just as well to incubate drama, colour and dynamism as the old sweeping location hikes of yesterday — Financial Times news feature.



A scene from "E.T." (the Extra-Terrestrial) directed by Steven Spielberg.



FAREWELL CARNIVAL: It has been too cold recently for the carnival fun of these clowns seen against the background of Cologne Cathedral. The carnival season, which is extremely popular on the Rhine, in Cologne, Düsseldorf, Mainz and hundreds of other towns in the Federal Republic of Germany, has got off to an indoor start. Music resounded in heated festival halls, with clowns and chorus girls and carnival speeches that can be devastatingly critical of politicians. With Easter early this year, carnival processions begin on Feb. 18. Two days later, on Ash Wednesday, it is all over for another year — DaD.

Australia conquers Windies

SYDNEY (R) — Australia turned the cricket form-book upside down Wednesday when they beat the all-conquering West Indies by 26 runs in the opening one-day match of the World Series Cup play-offs.

Australia, sent in to bat after West Indies captain Clive Lloyd won the toss, hit 247 for six in their 50 overs and then dismissed the West Indies for 221 with 2.3 overs left.

The home side recovered from a disastrous start, losing four wickets for 64 in the face of fine bowling from Joel Garner, thanks to a

gritty 127 not out from captain Allan Border.

The West Indies, who won 10 consecutive games against Australia and Sri Lanka in the qualifying competition, also lost four quick wickets when they batted.

But even a fighting 68 from Viv Richards and a whirlwind 43 from Malcolm Marshall could not pull

the side out of the clutches of unaccustomed defeat.

"It's the best I've ever played in one-day cricket," a jubilant Border said. "I was pretty confident despite our early loss of wickets... I set myself a team target of 220."

A philosophical Lloyd said, "The Australian target was gettable but we just didn't play well enough. We lost wickets at a time when we were ahead of the target."

The West Indies went in to the match without seasoned opener Gordon Greenidge who pulled out with back strain just before the team took the field.

Lloyd gambled on there being moisture in the wicket and his giant paceman Joel Garner proved him right, having the ball rearing around the heads of the Australian openers.

He sent Steve Smith back to the pavilion for six and Graeme Wood without scoring from catches off almost unplayable balls.

Kepler Wessels and Border put on a gritty 51 before Wessels went to a catch behind by Jeffrey Dujon off Marshall for 11.

Dean Jones spent only five minutes at the wicket before being bowled by Winston Davis, but Border stopped the rot by striking the highest score against the West Indies in 96 internationals.

Holmes could be tempted by \$25m

LAS VEGAS (R) — Larry Holmes, who has said he will retire after defending his International Boxing Federation (IBF) heavyweight title against David Bey on March 15, admitted he could be tempted into one further fight Tuesday night.

"I'm tired of fighting" said Holmes, the undefeated "People's champion", at a press conference in the Riviera hotel, site of his 15-round bout against the unbeaten Bey.

"I won't do something my mind and body tell me not to do... I don't have much left in me."

But Holmes, 35, who turned professional in 1973 and has held at least one of the three world heavyweight titles since 1978, added: "Only one fight would make me come out of retirement,

and that's against Gerry Cooney. I'm asking \$25 million for that so I'm pricing myself out of range."

Holmes, who knocked out Cooney in a memorable title fight in Las Vegas in June, 1982, is bidding for the 47th win of his career, just two short of the record held by Rocky Marciano, the only heavyweight champion to retire undefeated.

Holmes said he would make his formal retirement announcement on June 9, the seventh anniversary of the day he beat Ken Norton to win his first world title, the World Boxing Council (WBC) version.

Holmes relinquished the WBC title in 1983 and it is now held by Pinklon Thomas. The World Boxing Association (WBA) version of the crown belongs to Greg Page.

FIFA insures World Cup

QUERETARO, Mexico (R) — The International Football Federation (FIFA) has paid three million dollars to insure next year's World Cup soccer finals in Mexico for \$100 million.

FIFA's World Cup Organising Committee Chairman Hermann Neuberger of West Germany said the premium had been paid in case "war or an earthquake, for example," should stop the World Cup from going ahead.

In tremor-prone Mexico, observers considered the payment a reasonable precaution.

Political tensions have also risen in Mexico lately with violent outbursts between government and opposition leaders, but Neuberger is confident that politics will not intrude on the finals.

The insurance figures were disclosed by FIFA General Secretary Joseph Blatter, who is in Queretaro with other FIFA officials, including president Joao Havelange for the opening of a new ground — the only new stadium among the 12 World Cup venues.

In Zurich earlier Wednesday, FIFA said it was very satisfied with Mexico's preparations.

The inspection team, led by Neuberger and Blatter, has been touring Mexico for more than a week, and along with Havelange were attending a friendly game between Switzerland and Bulgaria at the new stadium later Wednesday night.

Lendl plays without officials

DELRAY BEACH, Florida (R) — In a bizarre match believed unprecedented in professional tennis, top seed Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and American Larry Stefanki played two games without a referee or linesman Tuesday.

The players made their own calls in their first round match of the \$1.8 million International Players Tennis Championship Tuesday night — and the sport's top

referee, Alan Mills, ruled it was all legal.

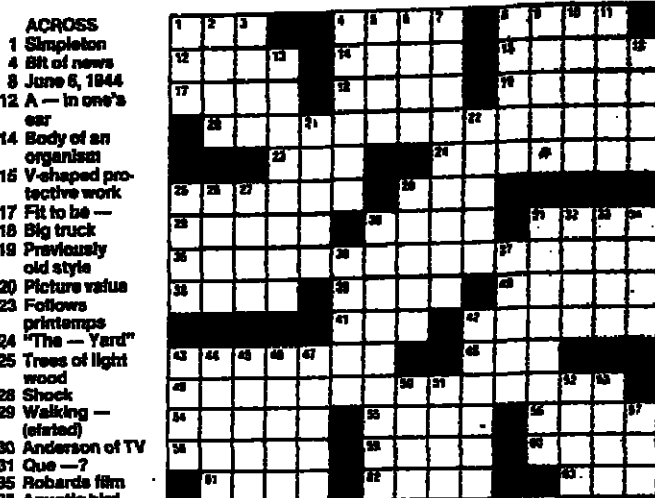
The umpire, Luigi Brambilla of Pomezia, Italy, and the linesmen left the court after a row over a disputed call.

A tournament official told Reuters: "Nobody here can recall anything like this in the history of professional tennis."

Lendl won 6-2, 6-0. Afterwards, he told reporters the row between players and officials started in the closing stages of the fourth game of the second set when Stefanki questioned a Lendl serve, which he thought was out. "I thought the serve was long too," Lendl said.

THE Daily Crossword

by Douglas J. Westberg



ACROSS
1 Simpleton
4 Bit of news
8 June 6, 1944
12 A — in one's ear
14 Body of an organism
15 V-shaped protective work
17 Fit to be —
18 Big truck
19 Previously old style
20 Picture value
23 Follows principles
24 "The — Yard"
25 Trees of light wood
28 Shock
29 Walking — (sleight)
30 Anderson of TV
31 Que — ?
35 Robards film
38 Aquatic bird
39 Basketball prize
40 Eastern deity
41 Legal matter
42 Like some canal
43 Card shark
48 Play part
49 Launched by Helen of Troy
54 Ladies
55 Racetrack
56 Embur
58 Doctrine
59 New town
60 Architecture of golf
61 Depend
62 Go-getter
63 Viet holiday

DOWN
1 Frequently
2 Loner
3 Components of 11D
4 Enamel
5 Digits
6 Borey or Lazarus
7 Principal parts of countries
8 Evoked
9 Remove
10 Condensation
11 Like very much
12 Open areas
13 Loyalty to an idea
16 Copy abroad
21 Hokkaido city
22 Type of architecture
25 Grassy or steam
26 AM word
27 He played Coventry Lion
28 Indiana — (Ford role)
29 Wounded superficially
31 Art of government
32 Boring tools
33 Easy task
34 Pale
36 Kingly titles
37 Centifurrow tree
42 — oil
43 Biblical verb
44 Speak
45 Radiated
46 Bath need
47 Vigorous
50 — contended
51 Dilemma
52 Watson or Holmes
53 Except
57 Rent

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U.S. central bank chief urges tough action on budget deficit

WASHINGTON (R) — Mr. Paul Volcker, chairman of the U.S. central bank, Tuesday urged Congress to raise taxes if it could not go along with President Reagan's proposals for spending cuts to reduce the government budget deficit.

"If you can't do it on the spending side, then do it on the revenue side," Mr. Volcker said in an appearance before the congressional joint economic committee.

Mr. Reagan has repeatedly vowed taxes will be raised only "over my dead body."

Mr. Volcker said cuts in federal spending would be the best way to reduce the deficit, expected to reach a record \$222.2 billion in the current year.

His remarks came as battle lines formed over Mr. Reagan's proposed budget for the 1986 financial year, which begins on Oct. 1.

The \$793.7 billion budget, submitted to Congress Monday, is already under sharp attack because it calls for a \$30 billion rise in defence spending authority while seeking more than \$35 billion in domestic spending cuts.

Both opposition Democrats and members of Mr. Reagan's own Republican Party say arms spending must be trimmed, and many legislators also question the wisdom of some of the proposed domestic spending reductions.

Mr. Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board (Fed), said reducing the deficit by less than the \$50 billion proposed by the president would threaten U.S. economic vitality, disapproval in financial markets and push interest rates higher.

He said cuts of \$50 billion or more could bring a reduction in interest rates of about one percentage point.

The White House estimates that a continuation of present tax and spending policies would push the deficit to a record \$230 billion in 1986. It says Mr. Reagan's proposals will trim the red ink to \$180 billion.

Mr. Volcker did not pass judgment on Mr. Reagan's budget but expressed concern about administration projections that show the deficit still exceeding \$140 billion in 1988 even if the president's proposals are approved.

"Those are extraordinary large deficits for an economy operating near full employment," he said.

Mr. Volcker said lower deficits would assure continued inflows of foreign capital that are needed to offset a U.S. trade deficit that reached a record \$123 billion last year.

He rejected suggestions that the budget deficit be financed by faster growth in the U.S. money supply.

Dollar's surge 'unfortunate'

Mr. Volcker called the recent run-up of the U.S. dollar against other currencies unfortunate, but he did not say whether the U.S. government would act to stop the dollar's rise.

He said official intervention in a bid to set currency values in world

markets was unlikely to be successful if it ran counter to fundamental market forces.

"I don't think you can expect too much from intervention," Mr. Volcker said.

But he declined to say whether the rise in the dollar to a 12-year high of 3.22 West German marks and an all-time high of 9.833 French francs reflected fundamental market forces. He also would not say whether he regarded the dollar as overvalued, although he said its advance was "unfortunate."

He said that finance ministers from the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Japan agreed at a Washington meeting last month to intervene jointly when they thought it would be helpful.

But his remarks Tuesday did little to clear up uncertainty about the significance of that declaration.

Stockman blasts plan

Meanwhile, President Reagan's troubled bid for a big boost in arms spending has been dealt a blow by Budget Director David Stockman, who charged that the top priority of U.S. military leaders is their personal comfort.

"The institutional forces in the military are more concerned about protecting their benefits than they are in protecting the security of the American people," Mr. Stockman said Tuesday in blunt remarks to the Senate budget committee.

"When push comes to shove, they will give up on security before they'll give up on retirement," he added.

Mr. Stockman also conceded he differed with Mr. Reagan and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, who have stressed the need to boost arms spending authority to \$322.2 billion in the 1986 financial year beginning on Oct. 1.

"I don't agree, obviously," Mr. Stockman said when asked about the arms spending request.

"But the president has made his decision and I'm in the institutional position of defending his budget," he said.

Earlier Mr. Stockman spent nearly an hour defending Mr. Reagan's \$793.7 billion spending plan, doing his best to justify both the arms budget and proposed cuts in domestic programmes.

But his later candour may have damaged the already dim chances for congressional approval of the military budget.

Key members of Congress, including Senate leader Mr. Robert Dole and Senate budget committee chairman Mr. Pete Domenici, of Mr. Reagan's own Republican Party, have already said the arms request will be pared.

Elsewhere Tuesday, house of representatives armed services committee chairman Mr. Les Aspin, a Democrat, said he would seriously consider proposals to freeze military spending authority at the 1985 level.

Mr. Aspin told Mr. Weinberger there would be further congressional enquiries to determine why NATO spends more money

on defence than the Warsaw Pact, yet lags behind in weapons production.

He rejected Mr. Weinberger's explanation that the Eastern Bloc nations cut costs by utilising slave labour, while NATO governments are forced to pay high wages.

Mr. Aspin also responded coolly to the administration argument that cuts in military outlays would harm prospects for an arms reduction pact at talks set to begin in Geneva on March 12.

"Just because there are talks going on doesn't mean we have to rubber stamp their whole programme," Mr. Aspin said.

During internal administration budget deliberations, Stockman had pressed Mr. Reagan to accept large cuts in military spending as part of a bid to shave record budget deficits.

Mr. Reagan is seeking major savings on civilian pensions, but wants only small cuts in military pensions or arms spending.

But Tuesday, Mr. Stockman said the preferential treatment of the military was unfair.

Members of the military who have served 20 years can retire with full benefits at any age, but civilian workers cannot retire until they have served 30 years and are at least 55 years old.

"I'll probably get in hot water for saying this, but I'm going to say it because it's about time that it was said," he told the committee.

Senators oppose cuts in Exim Bank subsidies

On the other hand, senators of both parties Tuesday defended the U.S. government's export credit subsidy programme against proposed cuts by the Reagan administration.

Members of a Senate trade subcommittee said an administration plan to eliminate nearly \$4 billion in direct loans by the U.S. Export-Import Bank (Exim Bank) would weaken efforts to correct the \$123 billion U.S. trade deficit.

The bank offers cut-rate loans to foreign firms to buy American exports such as Jumbo jets and steam turbines and is intended to counter other nations' subsidised export credits.

"The bottom line is that we both worsen our trade balance and export jobs elsewhere," Senator John Heinz, a Pennsylvania Republican, said of the budget proposal.

But administration and bank officials insisted spending could be trimmed while maintaining adequate assistance for U.S. exports.

As an alternative to direct loans, the bank proposed a new interest-matching programme to support U.S. exporters which would "buy down" interest rates on loans made by private banks.

"We are proposing an increase in our guarantee and insurance authority from \$10 billion to \$12 billion," Exim Bank President William Draper said.

Mr. Heinz said he doubted that the new programme would be adequate to support an expected \$3.8 billion in U.S. exports sales anticipated next year.

Industrialised nations urged to roll back trade protection

WASHINGTON (R) — The head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said Wednesday that spreading protectionism by wealthy nations could threaten the hard-won progress of heavily indebted Third World nations and deepen the debt crisis for years to come.

In a speech to businessmen in Stockholm released in Washington, IMF Managing Director Jacques De Larosiere said: "Protectionism is clouding the medium-term prospects for an orderly resolution of the debt problem."

He called instead for action to strengthen the world trading system, especially by the powerful industrialised nations.

While Mr. De Larosiere applauded efforts to launch a new round of trade talks, he called on rich nations to halt protectionism and to roll back measures already in place.

For the past three years, the IMF has spearheaded international efforts to bring debtor nations back from the brink of financial chaos.

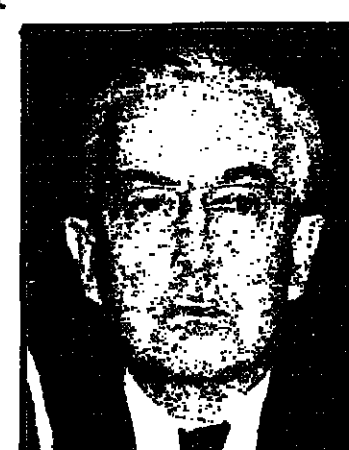
Mr. De Larosiere said the seven nations with the heaviest debts could succeed in overcoming their problems if their economies grew by about five per cent per year for the rest of the decade.

But he added: "Any tightening of trade restrictions in industrial countries would also squeeze the exports of developing nations."

Exports from the Third World, which owes foreign creditors some \$800 billion according to the IMF, are crucial to their economic survival, the IMF chief stressed.

But if a deeper debt crisis was to be avoided, Mr. De Larosiere also said that rich nations would have to grow at annual rates of about three per cent in the years ahead.

"If their actual performance



Jacques De Larosiere

falls short of that ... the export potential of the developing countries would be reduced and their growth rates would fall," Mr. De Larosiere said.

"There have been hopes that with recovery the industrial countries would roll back restrictions on trade. Though pledges to do this have been made at the summits and elsewhere, action has not followed," he said.

Strategic highway to link M.E.

BAGHDAD (OPECNA) — A strategic highway linking four Middle East and Gulf countries, set for completion by the end of 1988, is expected to give a major boost to trade exchanges and industrial and agricultural development in the region.

The 1,200 kilometre route, connecting Iraq with Syria, Jordan and Kuwait, is modelled on ultra-modern European and American communications networks.

Described as the first of its kind in the Middle East, the multi-million dollar venture is being carried out by several major construction firms under the supervision of Iraqi technical experts.

The six-lane highway, with its complex of bridges, flyover junctions and 20 service areas, each equipped with a hotel, restaurant, first-aid centre and filling station, will speed the flow of land tra-

nsport and ease traffic congestion.

Giant bridges will carry the road over the river Euphrates at two points — the first near the western Iraqi town of Ramadi and the second close to Batha sub-district.

A special automatically-controlled gate is being installed to ensure that the highway, which crosses through the bustling port city of Basrah in southern Iraq, will fit in with navigational needs in the Shatt Al Arab waterway.

Saudi Arabia activates industries

NEW YORK — The natural gas the Saudi Arabians once wastefully flared off as a byproduct of oil production is now being harnessed and turned into petrochemicals. The Saudi dream of industrialisation is coming true.

But some analysts are suggesting that the dream may turn into a nightmare for petrochemical producers elsewhere — with Dow Chemical, Union Carbide, Du Pont and the European and Japanese chemical giants all feeling the effects.

"In picture-book communities and gleaming plant complexes that did not exist five years ago, Saudi Arabia this year is starting up much of its output of products with such names as ethanol, methanol, polyethylene and polyvinyl chloride.

Petrochemical products, made from oil as well as natural gas, end up as plastics and fibers in thousands of industrial and consumer uses, from clothing to antifreeze to plastic bags. New plants in Saudi Arabia, as well as in Mexico, Kuwait and Canada, are adding some 10 per cent to world capacity.

As a result, fears are being expressed that many existing petrochemical plants will not be around in five years as the extra output depresses prices.

The Saudis, keenly aware of these fears, are trying to assuage them even before production starts in full. They are dispatching representatives and hiring public relations experts to get their message out.

"Our intent," said a Saudi official, Sheikh Abdul Aziz S. Al-Jarbo, "is to engage in commerce in a professional and an orderly, not disruptive, manner to compete fairly, to cooperate and to realise profits for our effort." — New York Times.

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'OPEC's output, supply decline'

PARIS (R) — Oil supplies from OPEC countries appear to have dropped sharply last month to about 15.5 million barrels per day (b/d), the Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA) said Tuesday.

"Preliminary data for January indicate that total oil supply has declined by 1.5 million b/d compared with December, and that OPEC crude oil production was about 15.5 million b/d," the agency said in its monthly oil market report.

The cutback coincided with efforts by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to regain control of falling oil prices. It agreed in October on a total output ceiling of 16 million b/d, but January was the first time production actually dropped below this figure.

more than a million b/d below December's estimated OPEC output of 16.7 million b/d and 1.7 million b/d less than the group's average 1984 production of 17.2 million.

A sharp drop in Iranian oil shipments in late December and early January was the main cause of the decline, the IEA said.

But Iran's exports may have started to rise again near the end of the month, it added, and the future balance of supply and demand in world oil markets is far from clear.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities rallied from opening lows to close mixed after a quiet session and the FTSE 100 index at 1500 GMT was up 1.1 at 1290.2 having touched 1280.5.

Shares were initially marked down in technical reaction to Tuesday's advance and Wall Street's mixed performance but dealers said selected issues moved up on bargain hunting. ICI ended 10p higher at 874 having opened at 857. Thorn EMI firmed 12p to 451 after 437. Blue Circle returned to 490 after 488 while GEC ended 6p lower at 198.

Government bonds gained up to 5/16 point on steady sterling. Gold firmed and North Americans were mixed.

BTR rose 23p to 672 after news that bankers agreed on the financing of Dunlop if BTR's bid success. Dunlop closed 2p off at 36 after 34.

Acorn Computers was temporarily suspended when trading 7p down at 28 pending an announcement. Beecham firmed 2p to 360, recovering its initial 5p loss on a recommended bid for Unibond.

R.P. Martin closed 20p up at 405 after news of a bid approach while Cable and Wireless added 10p to 530 after announcing the sell-off of some subsidiaries.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.1118/28	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3334/37	Canadian dollars
	3.2225/35	West German marks
	3.6470/80	Dutch guilders
	2.7340/50	Swiss francs
	64.50/53	Belgian francs
	9.8375/8425	French francs
	1979/1981	Italian lire
	259.55/65	Japanese yen
	9.1720/70	Swedish crowns
	4.2830/80	Norwegian crowns
	11.5025/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	303.15/303.65	U.S. dollars

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, FEB. 7, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Until mid-afternoon, you can make some serious mistake that involves financial or business matters. Make sure you handle things in a most cautious manner.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be careful not to take on any heavy investments which could cripple you financially very quickly. Socialize tonight.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You are anxious to go after your personal wishes, but don't use force and make others turn against you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Be tactful with your friends since they are apt to be under some tension or other and quick to retaliate.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You may find it difficult to get backing for practical affairs during day hours, but the evening is fine for such.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Be protective of your good name during the daytime, but tonight you can have recreational fun. Use care at work.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You want to get into new interests, but it is important you handle regular routines during the day. Safeguard your money.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Make sure you go over some accounts, and be sure you have not made a mistake. Devote yourself to loved ones.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A partner could be fixed in ideas and you a rough time if you don't compromise. Reach a happy agreement.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may have difficulty on the job today, but use self-control and you win out. Rest up and be happy at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Don't spend too much money for pleasure during the day. Await the evening to seek out inexpensive pleasures.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) There could be trouble at home if a close tie is under some bad outside influence. So be tactful with this person.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A letter or telephone call could cause problems, but handle them quickly and rise above depressed feelings.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she may have to contend with poor environment and other limitations, but with determination, can rise above them. Spiritual training is important. Teach how to work, even to acquire a good education and avoid bad influences.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 8, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Again, it is indicated that the daytime is not the time to force any issues and you would be wise to use your most sensible judgment in whatever arises. The evening is better.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Good day to look into some new interests, but don't confide in others as yet just what you intend to do.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Avoid those who have an eye on your assets during the daytime and keep calm. Don't lag behind in social affairs tonight.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Find a better way of meeting your responsibilities and then you can be very constructive in the days ahead.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Decide what it is you want in life after you have analyzed what is good and what is bad, forgetting the latter.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Analyze how well you are handling your career work and plan to improve it so that you gain more in the future.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Make sure you study every phase of your new ideas before you get them in motion. A new contact can be helpful.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have made promises that should be kept, so get at them early and they are soon behind you. Keep busy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A conscientious attitude during the day can bring fine benefits tonight. Think constructively and logically.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Co-workers may be hard to handle, but be sure to use tact and they cooperate more. Be careful spending money.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Seek only those pleasures you can truly afford in the evening, after you get important work done. Avoid arguments.

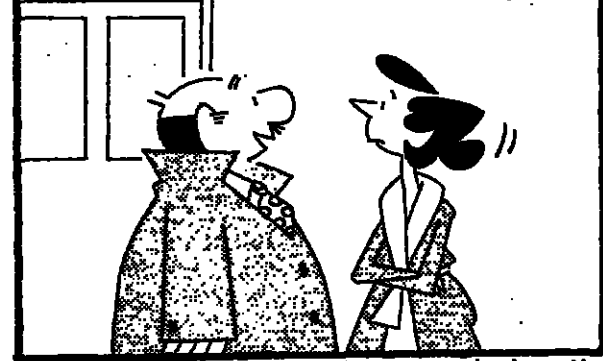
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study those plans well concerning kin before getting them in operation. Make sure you get bills paid on time.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A day to be most careful and not get into anything that could get you into trouble or spoil your reputation. Drive carefully.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be able to solve difficult problems and should be taught also how to handle practical affairs intelligently. Give as good an education as you can afford in order to best equip your progeny for the business of living.

THE BETTER HALF

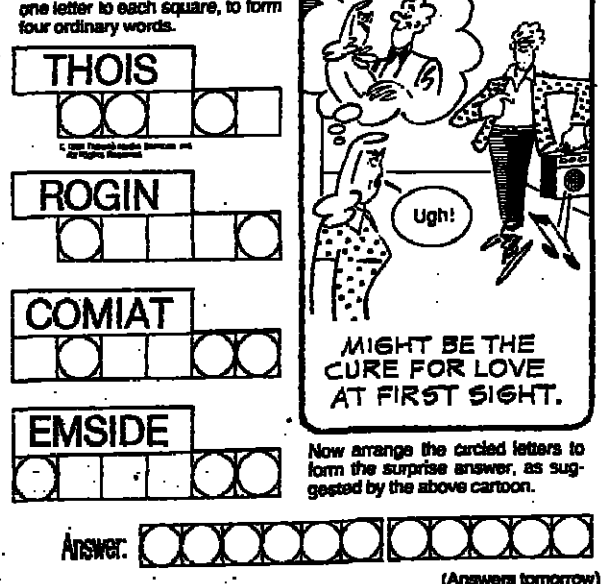
By Harris



"I'm mentally prepared for a tough day. I'm wearing superhero underwear."

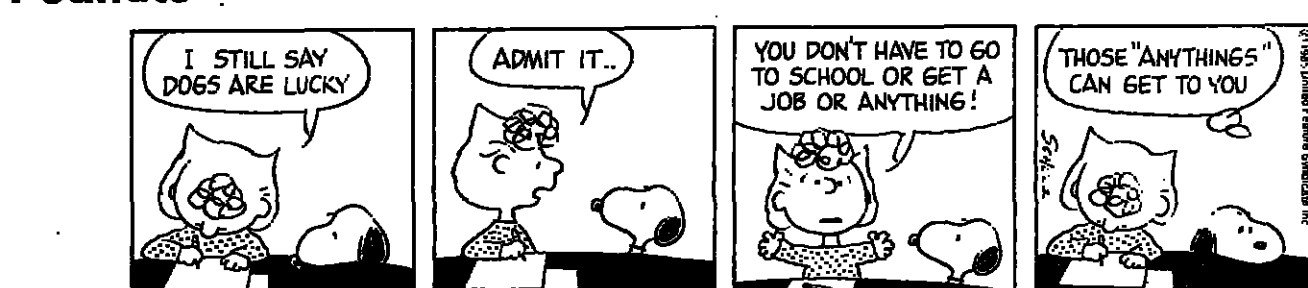
JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Yesterday's Jumbles: ANNUL PIANO OCELOT AROUND
Answer: Skating is a sport in which some end up this way—END UP

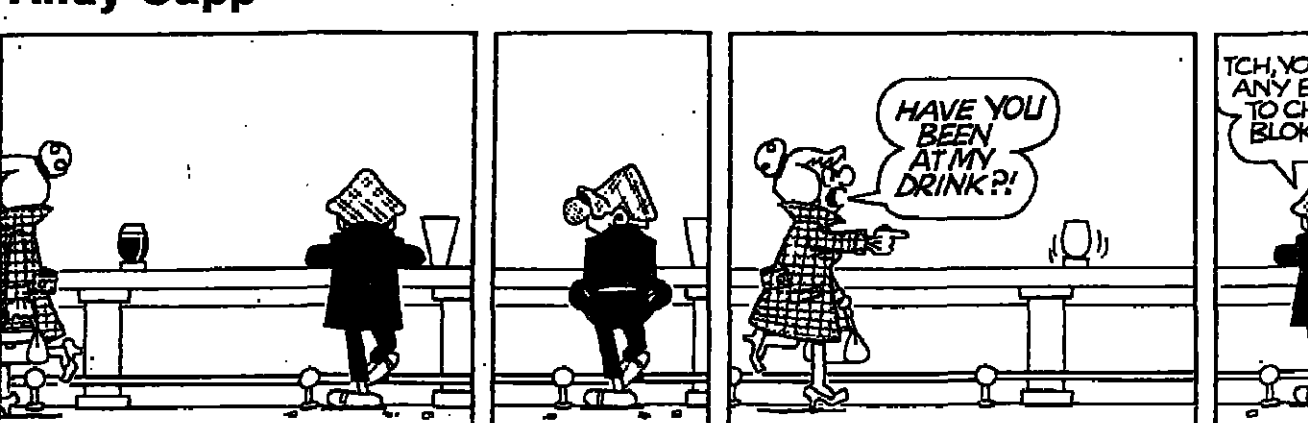
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



New blow hits ANZUS as Australia reviews MX decision

WASHINGTON (R) — Australia is reviewing its decision to support planned United States monitoring of MX missile tests in the South Pacific in what could be a second major blow to the crisis-hit ANZUS defence alliance.

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke, in Washington on a scheduled visit, has indicated he is reviewing the decision to provide support facilities for U.S. planes during monitoring of the tests, Mr. Hawke's Press Secretary Jeff Walsh told Reuters.

Mr. Walsh declined to comment on Australian media reports that Mr. Hawke, who is under public and political pressure in Australia over the decision, had already decided to reverse it.

The 33-year-old ANZUS Pacific security treaty linking the U.S., Australia and New Zealand has been plunged into crisis by the refusal of New Zealand, whose Labour government has an anti-nuclear policy, to allow visits by nuclear-capable ships.

The U.S. withdrew from the ANZUS "Sea Eagle" naval exercises off Australia next month after New Zealand Prime Minister

David Lange turned down a U.S. request for a port call by the 3,370-ton U.S. destroyer Buchanan. Military experts say the New Zealand policy effectively bans 80 per cent of American warships from New Zealand ports.

The Reagan administration is reviewing defence cooperation with New Zealand and considering further reprisals. Officials refuse to say whether they regard the future of ANZUS as in jeopardy but for Australia to support in tests could further strain the alliance.

Mr. Hawke, who arrived in Washington from Brussels Tuesday met Wednesday with Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger. The future of the ANZUS alliance will also be on the agenda when he confers with President Reagan Thursday.

Mr. Hawke supported the U.S. decision to withdraw from "Sea

Eagle" but has come under pressure from the Australian public and left-wing factions in his ruling Labour Party to refuse Washington's request for logistical support.

"Now this is a public issue and I have become aware of the extent of feelings on this issue — feelings which I understand," Mr. Hawke has been quoted as saying. "Now I'm simply saying that I will be taking those into account."

New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange lambasted Washington Wednesday, saying its attitude was unacceptable, and describing remarks by Mr. Weinberger as a "straightforward threat."

"I regard it as unacceptable that another country should by threat or coercion try to change a policy which has been embraced by the New Zealand people," he told a press conference.

Mr. Lange, who has said New Zealand has no intention of pulling out of ANZUS, was responding to a remark by the U.S. defence secretary that the New Zealand action "constitutes a serious attack upon the (ANZUS)

alliance". Mr. Lange said this was "a most unfortunate expression" from a superpower to a small country that had made a democratic decision.

The New Zealand ban covers both ships capable of carrying nuclear weapons — the U.S. never says whether its ships do or not — and nuclear-powered vessels.

Australian defence officials announced in Canberra Wednesday that Australia and New Zealand, long comrades-in-arms and both run by Labour governments, will go ahead with joint manoeuvres next week planned to curtainrise "Sea Eagle".

The New Zealand frigate Canterbury will join Australian vessels, they said.

In Washington, the State Department made clear why it is making a fuss about a ship visit in a relatively small alliance.

Spokesman Bernard Kalb said Washington hoped the response would signal to anti-nuclear movements around the world that what he called a "ripple effect" of similar anti-U.S. actions would not be cost-free.

Soviet official expelled, Indian newspaper says

NEW DELHI — India has expelled a Soviet diplomat on charges of being involved in the spy scandal that has rocked the country, the Indian Express newspaper reported Wednesday.

The Express, India's biggest selling newspaper, which first linked France to the affair last month, said the Soviet diplomat as well as one diplomat each from the Polish and East German embassies left India at the weekend.

There was no immediate comment from the Soviet embassy or the Indian External Affairs Ministry on the report.

The Express quoted intelligence sources as saying: "All these men from the embassies of countries of the Eastern Bloc left India over the weekend."

It said investigations revealed that a second Soviet diplomat might also be involved in the spy ring.

The Soviet Union is India's main arms supplier and the countries are linked by a long-standing friendship treaty — one of the main planks of India's non-

aligned foreign policy. The Express said the East Europeans were linked to the spy ring by a businessman from India's troubled Punjab state.

The businessman, who had extensive dealings with East Europe, has been arrested in the roundup of suspects.

Since the scandal broke three weeks ago France has recalled its deputy military attaché and announced the withdrawal of its ambassador.

Police also have arrested 16 Indians, including employees of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's office and staff of President Zail Singh.

The latest arrest was made Tuesday night when police raided the home and office of a Bombay businessman who headed a firm which employed a man named by newspapers as the leader of the ring.

Reports linking East Bloc nations to the affair have cast a pall over the arrival here next Monday on a four day visit of Polish Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Soviet army journal denounces Zionism

MOSCOW (R) — The ideological journal of the Soviet Armed Forces has made a blistering attack on Zionism, charging the creed's adherents with slandering the Soviet state and undermining its domestic and foreign policies.

An article in the monthly journal Kommunist, entitled on the Fronts of Ideological Struggle, asserted that Jews had no legitimate claim to Palestine and that hundreds of millions of people equated Zionism with Fascism.

The article was the latest Soviet assault on Zionism, which is often attacked in the official media as an imperialist and racist doctrine linked with U.S. military support for Israel.

"The Zionists spread the slanderous accusation that the Soviet authorities conduct a policy of official anti-Semitism," the journal said. "They smear people who oppose Zionism by calling them pathological anti-Semites."

Kommunist charged that Western-based committees monitoring alleged abuses of the rights of Soviet Jews were supported by Israel's secret services and by "Zionist organisations in many capitalist countries of the old and new world."

"With these mobs the Zionists have tried to discredit the internal and foreign policies of the USSR, by springing to the defence of inveterate criminals who are the leaders of anti-Soviet subversive activity," Kommunist said.

The article said one of the chief aims of Israel and world Zionism was the attempt to suggest that Jews were different from the Soviet Union's more than 100 other peoples.

The Soviet state regards its Jewish population, estimated at 1.8 million in the last census in 1979, as a national rather than a religious grouping and has sharply cut back on Jewish emigration after permitting a big wave in the 1970s.

"Zionist ideological saboteurs have fostered the hope that the exit from the USSR of Jews with higher education would undermine the faith of the Soviet people in all men of science, culture and art who are of Jewish nationality," Kommunist said.

The official Soviet News Agency TASS last month published charges by a Soviet historian that Zionists had collaborated with Nazis in World War II.

COLUMNS 768

Hecklers threaten speakers' corner

LONDON (R) — The future of speaker's corner, the 130-year-old "soapbox Parliament" in London's Hyde Park, is being threatened by a small but vociferous group of hecklers. Police said the orators, who traditionally mount crates (soapboxes) every Sunday morning to peddle their views, have complained of disruption by obscene and often racist abuse. "They are a very loud group who specialise in interrupting," Methodist preacher Lord Soper, who has spoken in Hyde Park since 1928, told a newspaper. "I object to their obscenities and to their deliberate attempts to disrupt my meetings." The corner has been a forum for dissent and eccentricity since 1855 when a carpenter first addressed a small gathering. Earlier this century, when orators included politicians and playwrights such as Aneurin Bevan and George Bernard Shaw, the corner was called the "Millpond of the political world." Today it is better known as a tourist attraction but its soapbox speakers believe the national institution must be saved.

Lockheed reduces cost of toilet covers

WASHINGTON (R) — The price of Pentagon toilet covers fell dramatically. Stung by unfavourable publicity over the toilet covers it sold the navy for \$600 each, the Lockheed Corporation has cut the price to \$100, the Pentagon announced. It said it had received a refund cheque from Lockheed for \$29,160 for the 34 covers the navy bought. The cost of the toilet covers — plastic units which fit around toilets on P-3 patrol planes — was disclosed during a hearing on the Pentagon's \$313.7 billion 1986 budget. Shortly after the disclosure, the Pentagon issued a press release saying it was conducting an investigation. The Pentagon said that with Lockheed's refund the issue was closed, although in future it would no longer buy covers from a sole source but ask for competitive bidding.

Gambler commits suicide

LAS VEGAS, Nevada (R) — Texas gambler William Bergstrom, who last year created Nevada gambling history by losing a million dollars on a single roll of the dice, has apparently committed suicide, police said. "He told me how rough it was to have a million dollars one day and not the second," a casino manager, Ted Binion, said. Bergstrom's body was discovered by a maid in a hotel room on the Las Vegas gambling "Strip". Bergstrom, 33, had apparently swallowed various unidentified capsules and had left a note asking that his body be cremated. Sergeant Frank Jergovic of the Las Vegas police said. Bergstrom, from Lagrange, Texas, made what casino officials said was the single biggest wager in the history of Nevada gambling when he lost a million dollars on the roll of the dice on Nov. 6.

Rome, Carthage are friends at last

CARTHAGE, Tunisia (R) — Ancient enemies Rome and Carthage were officially friends again, more than 2,000 years after Roman legions sacked the once-powerful North African city. The cities' mayors, Ugo Vetere for Rome and Cheddi Klubi for Carthage, signed a symbolic "protocol of entente" in an Arab-style guest house among the ruins of ancient Carthage, now a fashionable suburb of the Tunisian capital. Both men said they hoped the gesture of friendship between such ancient foes would cement closer ties between Europe and the Arab World, and Tunisian commentator described the treaty as "a bridge of peace across the Mediterranean." Rome and Carthage, the superpowers of the ancient world, fought three wars and in 146 B.C. Roman legionaries finally razed Carthage, ploughed up the site and sowed it with salt.

Pope ends Latin American tour

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad and Tobago (R) — Pope John Paul has ended a gruelling tour of Latin America during which he declared that Catholics should fight injustice but reject anti-Christian ideas and violence.

The Pope, who was returning to Rome Wednesday, finished the trip in Trinidad and Tobago, an island nation off Venezuela, and praised what he called its achievement of racial harmony.

He told 30,000 people in the capital, Port of Spain, that the achievement should give hope to the world at large.

After his 12-day tour covering four countries and nearly 30,000 kilometres the 64-year-old Pontiff seemed tired and his voice was hoarse.

In Peru, he suffered a slight fever. But at Ayacucho, in the Andean heartland of the civil strife plaguing the country, he made a dramatic appeal for the Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path)

guerrillas to end a four-year-old war which has cost 4,000 lives. The Maoists' defiant response was to bomb pylons and black out the Peruvian capital, Lima, during the Pope's visit.

"Evil is never the road to good," he told the guerrillas, adding that false ideologies had tricked people into believing violence could lead to a better world.

Throughout his trip, which also took him to Venezuela and Ecuador, the Pope firmly told priests and nuns how they should confront Latin America's grinding poverty.

"Always proclaim the truth of the church's teachings and not passing ideologies," he said in Lima.

He reaffirmed the Vatican's ruling that the so-called "Liberation Theology," the social-religious response of some Latin American priests to injustice, could not be influenced by ideologies alien to

Christianity such as Marxism, with its concept of class struggle. He also reiterated the authority of the church hierarchy in defining Catholic social teaching, but he was equally firm in proclaiming that the church could not remain passive in the face of the region's economic crisis.

"How long will men of the Third World unjustly have to support the primacy of economic processes over inviolable human rights?" he asked workers in Venezuela.

In Ecuador, he decried the "intolerable abyss" between rich and poor and said it could not be resolved without changes in the international economic order.

"Everything must be done, almost the impossible, so that this abyss does not widen," the Pope said.

Another central theme of his trip was the defence of the rights of Latin American Indians.

U.S. announces staff changes

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The new White House Chief of Staff, Donald Regan, came to the briefing room to announce the president's appointment of three persons to White House staff positions. They are: Patrick Buchanan, former speechwriter for Vice President Spiro Agnew and President Richard Nixon, to be assistant to the president and director of communications; Max Friedersdorf, to be assistant to the president and legislative strategy coordinator; and Edward Rollins, to be assistant to the president for political and governmental affairs.

Mr. Regan said James Brady will remain as press secretary to the president with Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes remaining as the president's principal spokesman. He said John Snyahn would remain as director of the office of policy development.

Challenged on the appointment of Mr. Buchanan, who was described by reporters as a man who hated the media and has been critical of such moderates as Secretary of State Shultz and Treasury Secretary Baker, Mr. Regan said Mr. Buchanan "will be a voice and an important voice in our communications policies, but you've got to remember that he will be a voice and his opinion may or may not hold during an entire discussion among quite a few people... policy is not set by one person..." Mr. Regan said that in any case, Mr. Buchanan "will not be dealing directly with you (the White House reporters). He will be working toward setting communications policies."

20 Khmer Rouge killed, injured

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand (R) — About 20 Khmer Rouge guerrillas were killed or wounded in fighting with Vietnamese troops at Phnom Malai near Kampuchea's border with Thailand Wednesday, Thai military officials said.

They told reporters many Vietnamese shells landed inside Thailand, causing minor damage and forcing the evacuation of hundreds of schoolchildren south of the Thai border town of Aranyaprathet.

They said clashes were taking place at several points about two kilometres inside Kampuchea and there were unconfirmed reports of hand-to-hand fighting.

In Bangkok, representatives of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) urged Moscow to stop backing Vietnam in its war against Kampuchean guerrillas, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

He told reporters that ASEAN envoys met Soviet Ambassador Valentin Kasapkin at the Foreign Ministry to convey their concern at Vietnam's attacks on guerrilla bases close to the Thai border.

The envoys told Mr. Kasapkin that Moscow had a decisive role to play in resolving the conflict. They said a military solution to the six-year-old conflict was impossible and a political solution must be sought.

The spokesman said Soviet envoys to all capitals of ASEAN, which groups Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei and Thailand, were told simultaneously of the stand taken by its members.

Thai military officials said Vietnamese gunners shelled the Khmer Rouge stronghold of Phnom Malai as infantrymen fought their way towards a string of guerrilla defences in the rugged, mountainous area.

Phnom Malai, a 400 square kilometre complex of camps and bases, is under siege by about 18,000 Vietnamese troops trying to flush out an estimated 10,000 Khmer Rouge guerrillas.

Pravda says Bonn must abandon claims to E. Germany

MOSCOW (R) — Bonn should give up its claims to East Germany and recognise the Communist state's passport, the official Soviet daily Pravda said Wednesday.

Pravda's East Berlin correspondent May Podklyuchnikov attacked Bonn for claiming to represent "all Germans", in the constitutional clause which gives any East German an automatic right to a (West) German passport and asylum in the West.

"Isn't it time for Bonn to finally abandon the myths and begin to base its policies exclusively along the lines of the political development of Europe in the four

post-war decades," he asked.

An editorial in Pravda Wednesday also accused Bonn of failing to come to terms with the post-war situation in Europe and invoked the agreements between the Soviet Union, Britain and the United States in Yalta 40 years ago this week.

Pravda said the three wartime allies had agreed on the expulsion of German residents from territories to be detached from Germany as part of the redrawing of frontiers so that they could never again be used as an excuse for aggression.

U.K. troops seal off site of second cruise base

LONDON (R) — Some 2,000 police and troops Wednesday evicted protesters from Britain's second cruise missile site and sealed it off with a 11 kilometre-long barbed wire fence.

Hundreds of police and 1,500 army engineers with earth-moving equipment and flood-lights took part in the overnight swoop, which caught the 200 men, women and children in a "peace camp" on the

site by surprise.

Police closed off roads leading to the site at Molesworth in Cambridgeshire, about 100 kilometres north of London. It is earmarked to take 64 American cruise missiles from 1988.

Protesters had been camping at Molesworth for three years. A police spokesman said all the campaigners had left peacefully or agreed to do so.

South Africa accuses Angola of helping rebels

CAPE TOWN (R) — Foreign Minister P. W. Botha Wednesday accused Angola's Marxist government of supporting the violent overthrow of the South African government by aiding African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas.

Mr. Botha, faced with a series of foreign policy setbacks and criticism from Zambia, Botswana, Mozambique and Angola, has reacted by defending his policies and accusing South Africa's detractors of hypocrisy.

He said in a statement there was no doubt that Angola was supporting the overthrow of the South African government.

"It plays host to several thousand members of the ANC and has put at their disposal several camps which are used for the training of anti-South African terrorists," he said.

"It has given indispensable support to SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) in its terrorist attacks against South

West Africa/Namibia." Under an agreement signed a year ago South Africa agreed to withdraw its troops from southern Angola provided Angola kept the area free of SWAPO fighters and Cuban troops supporting the Luanda government.

The South African withdrawal is now stalled, with Pretoria complaining about continued SWAPO activity.

South Africa said Tuesday that SWAPO fighters had begun infiltrating from Angola for an annual rainy season offensive against South African-ruled Namibia.

South African troops have operated freely in Southern Angola over the past few years in operations against SWAPO.

Several countries have accused South Africa of delaying the proposed independence of Namibia, and Botswana says it fears a raid by South African forces because of Mr. Botha's allegations that ANC guerrillas are infiltrating through Botswana.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkens

SHORT SUBJECTS

By Judson G. Trout

ACROSS
1 Excluded
6 Official deeds
10 Debutary group
15 Programmed
19 Ridge
20 Python
21 Jail
22 Director Kazan
23 Unsubstantiated
24 "The King"
25 Meryl Streep
26 "The Godfather"
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Diagramless
17 X 17, by Mary Coo Whitman

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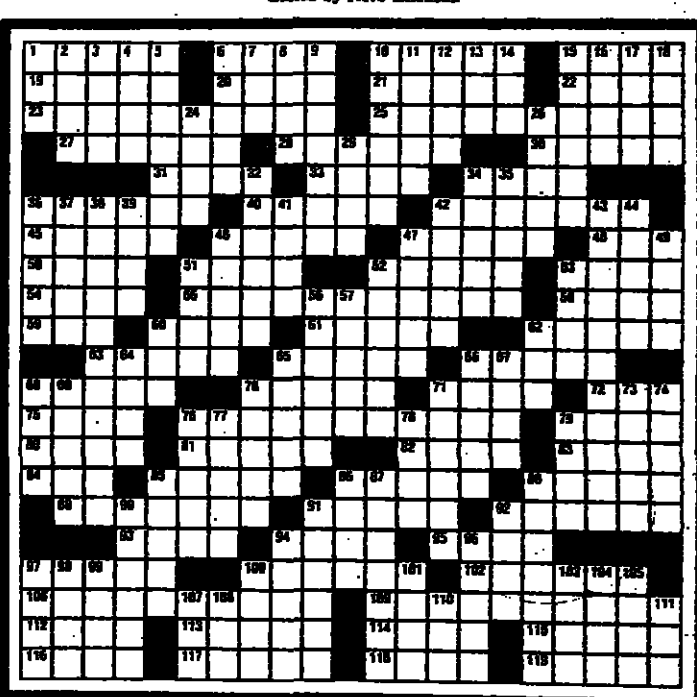
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Last Week's Cryptograms

1. A kindly gale of laughter may be fine, but don't really make a habit out of it.
2. Why is the penny's whistly or raspy? He's only a little worse.
3. Capricious coffee and a panacea delightful enough after dinner.
4. Clowns swing clubs at tumbling acrobats in a comic circus brawl.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. CCI OF OH HCYN IDS VMUME CYUM MVDSTC

HOWM HD ED OH BOTCH HCM LOSFH, ROWM.

1MB IDS GOZZ YZGYIF LOVE ROWM MVDSTC

HD ED OH DUMB?

2. TWOC CWFSEK GLASY ARSI CUF KURTAK;

PY GUOSI LAAZ FEYEL BRYG UR PUR KAEZ.

3. TMLIS ALLYLY NEERKURT UNELS RUIMAO.

SCOOY KLURCH NEERKURT.

4. FOAW IDNZ LB KDHI IDZW FOJADEZ TNW ELN

TELOZ FOJALENDE.

5. TMLIS ALLYLY NEERKURT UNELS RUIMAO.

SCOOY KLURCH NEERKURT.

6. FOAW IDNZ LB KDHI IDZW FOJADEZ TNW ELN

TELOZ FOJALENDE.

7. TMLIS ALLYLY NEERKURT UNELS RUIMAO.

SCOOY KLURCH NEERKURT.

8. FOAW IDNZ LB KDHI IDZW FOJADEZ TNW ELN

TELOZ FOJALENDE.

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